Walsall & Willenhall

CONICLE

Thursday, October 25, 2018

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Atticrose had been trading for more than 36 years

35 JOBS LOST AS STEEL FIRM SHUTS

Report by John Corser

MORE than 35 jobs have been lost after a Walsall steel firm closed its doors.

Atticrose, based in Robottom Close, off Leamore Lane in Bloxwich, Walsall, had been operating for more than 36 years but closed indefinitely on Friday, October 12 after running out of money.

All the company's staff were told in a meeting with directors and have been given a week's pay. A former employee, who did not wish to be named, said the steel fabrication company had blamed the closure on failing to land contracts in the biomass industry.

"Employees are now left with a dismal few

weeks leading up to Christmas having to claim unpaid wages from the Redundancy Service as well as obtaining unpaid employer pension con-tributions from the liquidator," said the former

Liquidation

He said staff were told that the company, which has been advised by FRP Advisory, was yesterday, Wednesday, due to be formally placed into liquidation.

FRP Advisory confirmed it is working with the directors of Atticrose to review options for the business.

"A further update will be provided in due course," it said in a statement.

Atticrose was involved last year in taking down the iconic silos at the old Goodyear site in Wolverhampton.

Heat treatment furnace firm Bricesco, which

is also part of Atticrose Group, is continuing to trade from the Bloxwich site.

The former leader of Walsall Council and

The former leader of wasail Council and current leader of the council's Labour group, Sean Coughlan, said it was 'really sad' to see Atticrose close its doors, warning the closure was going to have a 'knock-on effect' across Blowiich.

Howevich.

He said: "I have to say they were an excellent company and it's really sad to see them go. Unfortunately, it's a sign of manufacturing in the area. There's going to be a knock-on effect on Bloxwich. I know the kind of impact it has on people because we've had it happen to the

KIMORA FULFILS DREAM TO BE PRINCESS FOR A DAY



The Edie family inside the special carriage, with dad Quincy, left, Kiari, mum Charlotte, Kimora, Lexy and Amelia

The Edie family inside the special of A THREE-year-old Walsall girl with an untreatable form of childhood cancer has fulfilled her dream of becoming a princess for the day. Kimora Edie, who has neuroblastoma, was taken on a horse and carriage ride around her home town on Saturday. Her mother, Charlotte Edie, aged 31, was told last week her daughter had just hours to live and could stop breathing at any moment. She defied those odds to enjoy the horse and carriage ride, organised by the Make a Wish Foundation, but there is no treatment left for her in the UK.

The Edie family is working with Solving

her in the UK.

The Edie family is working with Solving Kids Cancer to launch a £300,000 fundraising campaign to get Kimora to America.

Charlotte said Kimora had been in and out of drop-in centres for three months since January to see doctors because she had stom-



The horse and carriage sets off

ach pains, drastic weight loss and had been bleeding from the mouth. She was diagnosed in April after a tumour was discovered in her stomach which had spread to her bones

The Alumwell Nursery School student has been receiving treatment at Birmingham

been receiving treatment at Birmingham Children's Hospital and even had to learn to walk again after the tumour put pressure on her spine.

Despite trying chemotherapy and radiotherapy, Charlotte was told there was no treatment left for her daughter, who is at Acorns Hospice. She said: "I knew there was something wrong with her but I never could have imagined that it would be this.

"Even if one parent reads Kimora's story and it makes a difference then it is worth it. "Mothers and fathers need to trust their in-

"Mothers and fathers need to trust their instincts when they know something's up. She is a fighter and she is so caring and innocent. is a fighter and she is so caring and innocent. She said to me that she just wants to go home – it's heartbreaking."

COUNCIL Rubber stamp due

on tips hours boost

A PLAN for recycling centres in Walsall to open seven days a week was set to be approved by the council this week.

The 13-week trial for the tips in Learners

The 13-week trial for the tips in Leamore

The 13-week trial for the tips in Leamore and Aldridge will come into effect in April—and will also include one late night opening from 8am to 8pm per week at each site. Walsall Council has put aside £110,000 to fund the trial. Environmental bosses are taking steps to combat the ongoing nuisance of fly-tipping in the borough, after the latest annual figures revealed the problem cost the public purse more than £426,000 in 2017-18.
Following the change in the council's

Following the change in the council's administration in May, officers have been looking at ways of addressing the issue – in particular plans to extend opening hours at the borough's recycling centres in Fryers Road, Leamore, and Merchants Way, Aldridge. The opening hours for tips were reduced in 2014 from seven to six days

per week with reduced operating hours of 9am-5pm.
This move saved the council around £248,000 a year. A further saving of £98,000 was delivered in 2015 by reducing opening at each site by one additional day, from six days a week to five.

Walsall's Clean and Green Service manager Mark Holden said: "Should the trial be

successful, opening both sites seven days per week will require an amendment to the current waste collection policy."

Not guilty plea by murder suspect

A 47-YEAR-OLD man has denied murder-ing Edwin Bradley who was found dead with serious head injuries at his Walsall home. Darren Barnes, from Bloxwich Road, Walsall, pleaded not

guilty to committing the offence, and also denied stealing a hard drive, between July 2 and July 6 this year. The pleas were entered when he appeared at Wolver-



hampton Crown Court on Monday. The body of Mr Bradley was discovered at his house in St Thomas Close, Coalpool, on July 6 when concerned neighbours called police after not seeing the 65-year-old for several days. A trial has provisionally been scheduled to start on January 2.



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Karate club makes the Moose-t of boost



Councillors Shirley Hosell and Syeda Khatun with club members

A WEST Bromwich karate club which teaches people self-defence skills and trains athletes for major championships has been awarded a grant by a special Sandwell Council fund.

Moose Martial Arts has been awarded a town grant of £1,739.

The club, which is run on a voluntary basis in Woodward Street, has 40 students ranging from the age of four to 60. It teaches the Wado-Ryu style of karate.

The sessions include self-defence, kata sparring and pad work and the club also helps with preparations for members to

enter the European and World champi-

onships.

The funding is providing more equipment to enable trainers to help more members to improve their skills and hopefully be selected for England.

Methods

Councillor Shirley Hosell, town chair for West Bromwich, said: "I am very pleased to hear that the money has helped the club to adopt new teaching methods. be at the "It is also good to hear that the grant" vember."

has helped to encourage new students to attend sessions.

Shannon Parsons from Moose Martial Arts, said: "The club has received the money and it is helping us deliver different teaching methods which really benefit the young people who attend.

"It's helped to encourage new stu-dents to attend and increased overall numbers. We also have a student who has represented England at the All Nations Championships in August and will be at the Europeans in Ireland in No-

Two-week shutdown of **JLR starts in** sales slump

A TWO-WEEK shutdown has started at Jaguar Land Rover's biggest factory, in Solihull.

More than 9,000 people work at the 300-acre site, but will still be paid during the fortnight-long production stoppage, which started on Monday.

The stoppage has been organised

in co-operation with trade unions but Unite has described the move as 'deeply troubling'.

It comes as Jaguar Land Rover has

seen sales falling in recent months, in the UK, Europe, north America and particularly in its key Chinese market.

The fortnight stoppage also comes after JLR announced a three-day week for 2,000 workers at its Jaguar plant in Castle Bromwich until Christmas and the axing of 1,000 agency workers in the

Causes

The Wolverhampton engine factory on the i54 site, employing around 1,800 people, is not affected.

Christian Stadler, professor of strat-

egy at Warwick Business School, said the causes of the shutdown were the impact of the trade war between China and the USA and growing concerns over Brexit. He said: "JLR is one of many UK car

manufacturers heading into troubled

"This shutdown is a short-term meas ure, but the company has already laid off 1,000 jobs across the Midlands this year and more cuts will follow if things don't get better with Brexit and China

"That will be the biggest worry hang-ing over the workers and unions during the next fortnight.'

Suspicious BMW seen near school

POLICE are investigating after reports of a suspicious BMW driving up and down a road outside a primary school in Bilston. Police said they are investi-gating reports of the car near Villiers Primary School on Proud's Lane after it drove past a 17-year-old girl on a number of occasions nearby.

A police spokesperson said: "Police are evestigating reports of a dark coloured BMW acting suspiciously in the Stow-14 and 17 October.

"The car has driven past a 17-year-old girl on a number of occasions and this is being investigated as harassment. There have also been reports concerning the vehicle near Villiers Primary School.

"No children have been approached, and no physical contact has been made. Anyone with information can contact with police on 101 quoting reference 20WV/238616K/18."

Fears for centre if Debenhams closes

Debenhams store will signal the 'death knell' for shopping in part of the town, council bosses have warned.

The struggling department store chain is reportedly considering closing down a third of its 166 stores under an emergency plan aimed at tackling its spiralling debts.

spiralling debts.

Debenhams put forward 10 stores for closure earlier this year – but now council bosses say they fear that Walsall's branch in The Old Square could have made it onto the hit list. It follows a disastrous 12 months for retail in the town, with profits slumping at the Saddlers Centre, dozens of

snumping at the Saddiers Centre, dozens of empty shops and Marks and Spencer shutting down after 84 years.

Councillor Mike Bird, the leader of Walsall Council, said: "The retail offer in Walsall is diminishing every day. The footfall has been greatly reduced and there are more people outside the shops shaking buckets than there are customers inside.

Prospects

"We fear that Debenhams will go, and if that does happen then it will signal the death knell of that part of the town.
"It looks very much as if they have been losing money there for a very long time. We can only hope that they look at the trading pattern across the whole of the region and consider that it might be worth keeping the store open." store open.

Debenhams is thought to have a lease on

he Walsall site until 2035.
In September it emerged that the firm had called in restructuring specialists from auditors KPMG to look at the possibility of negotiating reduced rents for its sites and closures of unprofitable shops in a bid to

Options could include a company voluntary arrangement (CVA) to cut store costs.

Debenhams has announced a series of profit warnings this year

Having a ball raising £44k for charity



Penny Barrett and Vonnie Knight with front: Samrick Bahia from Essington

HUNDREDS of people attended a masquerade ball to raise thousands for two charities.

The event at the Ramada Park

The event at the Ramada Park Hall in Wolverhampton was in aid of the Anthony Nolan Trust and Birmingham Children's Hospital. It as inspired by Samrick Bahia, from Essington, who was diagnosed with Leukaemia in 2012 at the age of 19. Mr Bahia has been cancer free for more than two years now.

Focus on Leukaemia, set up by Mr Bahia's family, held the event which raised £44,000 for the two charities. The event also encouraged the 500 people in attendance to sign up to become bone marrow transplant donors.

urauspiant donors.

Mr Bahia's aunt, Gurminder
Dosanjh, said: "The event was really amazing. The family set the
charity up after Samrick was diagnosed in 2012.

"We set it up to keep him going through his treatment as he was very down.We have held three events in the past and this was our fourth. We had 500 people in attendance and helped to raise £44,000 which will be split between the two charities.

"The charities were also there encouraging people to sign up to become a bone marrow transplant donor," she added.

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Booze could be on sale at city market to aid trade

BOOZE and late night tipples could soon be served to customers at Wolverhampton market as council chiefs try to boost visitor numbers.

The market near Cleveland Street The market near Cleveland Street could play host to a mix of events, with longer opening hours and alcoholic beverages on offer. It comes after Wolverhampton Council applied for a premises licence for its £4.9 million market, which opened to the public three markets are lic three months ago.

A council spokesman said: "All Wolverhampton's market sites hold an alcohol and entertainment licence. enabling them to hold alternative events. The former city centre market in Market Square was licensed and the new market off Cleveland Street has been designed to accommodate many future events to boost the visitor economy in the city centre.

tor economy in the city centre."

The market, which relocated from its former Market Square base, opens between 7.30pm to 4pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Council officers have applied to have the possibility of extending opening hours any day of the week, so the market could open anytime between 7cm and 12 30cm 7am and 12.30am

The premises licence application also requests entertainment between 8am and 12am, late night refreshments between 11pm and 12am, as well as alcohol sales between 8am and

Mayor after £10bn cash injection

ANDY Street has flagged up £10 billion of projects across the region to lion of projects across the region to global property investors at a major showcase. As part of efforts to bang the drum for the 'UK's new growth capital' the Mayor of the West Mid-lands talked about investment op-portunities including the i54 Western Extension, Springfield Campus and Canalside and Interchange in Wolver. Extension, Springieid Campuls and Canalside and Interchange in Wolver-hampton, in addition to Walsall and Dudley town centres at the MIPIM UK conference held last Thursday. It is the country's largest exhibition and conference for property profes-sionals, attended by more than 3,000

people from more than 45 countries. While foreign investment into the UK fell last year, the West Midlands at-

Van is targeted

A VAN containing power tools was broken into – but thieves fled emp-ty-handed. The Citroen Relay van was targeted overnight on Saturday in Surrey Close, Cannock. Anyone with details can call police on 101.

Fears for village if 230 homes approved



Councillor David Clifft

pact on a village after developers were given the green light, residents fear.

Councillors in Essington, near Walsall, have vowed to push for a judicial review after the scheme was approved. They say schools, roads and doctors' surgeries will not be able to

cope.

The new estate will spring up on land off Hobnock Road after South Staffordshire Council waved the plans

Locals have been left furious by the

District councillor David Clifft, who also sits on the parish council, said: "Essington, back in 2012, was earmarked for no development until 2028 because it would be over-devel-opment – the schools and doctors' surries are over-subscribed. But then e Government came along in 2015 and said more houses were needed

"In my opinion planning officers had a knee-jerk reaction. I think this

on the village, in terms of facilities. The school is over-subscribed. It is an outstanding school so everyone will be clambering to get in there. It will take two weeks to get an appoint-ment at the doctors' surgery. There is no infrastructure on the roads. There

could be 600 people and at peak times that could be a major problem." The sprawling development will consist of nine one-bedroom flats, nine two-bedroom flats, 23 two-bed bungalows, 51 two-bed houses, 76 three-bed houses, 54 four-bed houses and eight five-bed houses.

will have a major negative impact Child obesity in borough is third worst in Britain

FEARS are growing for the health of children in the Black Country after more than a quarter of 10 and 11-year-olds in Sandwell - 28.1 per cent, are now considered obese.

In fact the borough is the third worst in the country, just behind two London bor-

oughs in the national tables.

Walsall is some way further down the list with 25.6 per cent of youngsters that age cited

as obese, but still more than a quarter and well above the national average of 20.1 per cent. Being classed as obese in the context of the youngsters means that they are 20 per cent

heavier than they should be.

Last year's figure for Sandwell was 27.4 per cent, and there are a further 14.2 per cent in the same age group who are heavier than they should be, although, not obese – while 7.5 per cent are classed as severely obese, with a BMI of 40 or more.

Overall, more than four in 10 children in Sandwell are officially overweight.

The news follows the publication last week of the Wolverhampton childhood obesity figures, with the city ranking the fifth worst in the country. Some 26.8 per cent of children in Year

country. Some 20.8 per cent of children in Year
6 – and almost 50 per cent in Bilston East and
44 per cent in Blakenhall – are classed as obese.
Meanwhile Dudley, has the lowest rate in the
Black Country, at 25.5 per cent.
The figures were published by the National
Child Measurement Programme, which each
year measures the height and weight of more
than a million children in Recention and Ven than a million children in Reception and Year 6 to assess childhood obesity. The data shows that children often develop

weight problems while at primary school.

In Sandwell 12.4 per cent of Reception-aged children, those aged four and five, are classed as clinically obese – up from 12 per cent, also one of the highest rates in the country, with severely obese children making up 3.6 per cent

of four- and five-year-olds in the borough.

Obesity is strongly linked to deprivation, with the number of obese children living in the poorest areas more than double that of those living in better-off places

It's spooky in-spider museum



Assistant curator at Walsall Leather Museum, Francesca Cox, promotes some spooky fun for half term

SOME spooky fun has been lined up for half term at a popular fam-

ily museum.

Walsall Leather Museum is running an Incy Wincy Spider drop-in, a Magical Monsters workshop and a Creepy Crafts session for children looking for ways to liven up their week off school. Creepy Crafts is on Monday.

Places cost £4 and booking is essential. Next up is the Incy essential. Next up is the Incy Wincy Spider Drop-In which is on October 30, encouraging chil-dren to make some spooky, spider inspired decorations, for £1, in preparation for Halloween. The Magical Monsters work-shop will take place October 31. Again, booking is essential

and tickets cost £3. The event is hosted by Birmingham based illustrator Rob Conway, a regular

face at the museum.

Francesca Cox, assistant curator at the museum, said "The Museum is celebrating a craft so we see that as our broader purpose to promote craft and creativity."

Call 01922 652288 for details.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Phoenix Nights cast at town hall

ORIGINAL cast members from Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights will be in the West Midlands on March 9. Barbara Nice, Jo Enright, Neil Fitz-

maurice, Archie Kelly and Steve Royle will all grace the stage at the new-ly-refurbished Darlaston Town Hall.

Hundreds of tickets have already been snapped up for the stand-up show, organised by CAN Comedy and Darlaston All Active.

Brothers, Andy and Paul Night-ngale, who run CAN Comedy, said: When we started in 2012 nights like this were a dream.

"We are both huge Phoenix Nights fans and to bring so many of the orig-inal stars to the Black Country is a dream come true.

Andy and Paul will also host the night as their alter egos The Cheeky Blinders.

Tickets are £16 and can be bought from Paul on 07818 507635 or by emailing him paul@cancomedv.co.uk

HomeServe among top UK employers

APPLE is the best company to work APPLE is the best company to work for in Britain, according to data released by the world's biggest job site Indeed - but HomeServe is not far behind. The global tech giant came top of a ranking of the UK's best employers that was compiled from millions of employee reviews.

Walsall-based HomeServe ranked wasan-based Homeserve ranked fourth in the top 25 companies. The second-ranked employer is Humber-side-based Wren Kitchens and third global pharmaceuticals business GlaxoSmithKline

Bill Richards, UK managing director of Indeed, said: "The difference between a good job and a great job can vary from person to person, but our ranking shows some common themes shine through.

HomeServe issued a statement saying: "Our culture is built on the understanding that if we take care of our people, they will take care of our customers and the rest takes care of

Arrest made on boy with knife

A 16-YEAR-OLD BOY has been ar rested at a bus station after being al legedly caught in possession of a knife and drugs.

The teenager was arrested at St Paul's bus station in Walsall in the early hours of Thursday on suspicion of possession of cannabis with intent to supply and for possession of a knife

to supply and for possession of a knife.
Force Response officers at West
Midlands Police arrested the boy, with
assistance from Walsall Police, after
receiving a tip-off from members of
the public about the alleged weapon.



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Fingerprinting the suspects 'on move'

POLICE officers will be able to fingerprint suspects on the move after hundreds of new mobile fingerprint devices were brought in.

West Midlands Police has invested in 657 of the machines, which enable people's details to be checked on the

Bosses say the move will save the force time and money, while also en-abling officers to spend more time

abling officers to spend more simple fighting crime.

The force has spent £262,000 on the devices, which will initially be used by force response teams, operations officers and neighbourhood policing

Medics want more social care funding

PATIENTS will be left 'stranded' in hospitals and GP waiting rooms unless more money is found for social care, leading medics have warned.

In a letter to the Chancellor ahead

of the budget, leading British health-care groups warned that more money needs to be ploughed into social care

and public health services.
Without investment, "consequent Without investment, "consequent demand on NHS services will not be manageable", according to the letter. The authors said the funding gap in social care services, estimated to be £3.5 billion by 2025 for adult care services in England alone, needs to be plugged as "a matter of urgency".

Children witness animal cruelty

MORE than a fifth of schoolchildren in the West Midlands have witnessed animal cruelty and neglect on social media, the RSPCA has revealed.

The charity said it was seeing nearly 5,000 such incidents reported each year. More than 400 have been reported in the West Midlands in 2016, 2017 and the first six months of 2018, and 238 in Staffordshire.

In response, the charity is launch-

ing its biggest ever education and pre-vention programme aimed at children.

Lower interest rates help first-time buyers

FIRST-TIME buyers are driving the housing market with the number of mortgages handed out to this sector reaching its highest levels in over a year in August, lenders have reported.

There were 35,500 new first-time buyer mortgages completed in August, two per cent more than in the same month a year earlier, trade associa-tion UK Finance said. Experts put this down to low interest rates

COUNTY NEWS Care firm staff recognised for their work Murder rate

DIRECTORS of Bluebird Care offices in Walsall have been recognised for their outstanding work.

The company, which offers care for people in their own homes, held their national conference at De Vere Orchard Hotel in Nottingham last month where Amardeep Heer and Sonia Khera, received this year's Phachief Care Margara Amarde Bluebird Care Newcomer Award.

Adrian and Nicola Witt, directors the most important part of this job

of Bluebird Care Dudley, Wyre Forest and Malvern Hills, finished as finalists in the category.

and we are so pleased that we can look after people who really need our help. Thank you to everyone in the Blue-

Amardeep Heer and Sonia Khera, directors of Bluebird Care Walsall, said: "We are so honoured to have won this award, it is wonderful recognition of the hard work all of our team have put in and we are so proud of everyone who we work with. Our customers are

bird Care Walsall team – you make such a difference to people's lives and should be very proud of yourselves."

The award recognises businesses who are under two years old.

Both offices were recognised for maintaining the quality of the brand, surpassing growth and following the company's ethos – with Amardeep given the award after becoming the highest scorer in the areas.

Nicola Witt, director of Bluebird Care Dudley, Wyre Forest and Mal-vern Hills, said: "We are so pleased to have been considered for this award, and to get to the final group is great. We wouldn't be here however, without the hard work and dedication of our

Grandson, 26, guilty of brutal stab murder

Report by Marion Brennan

A MAN who stabbed his grandmother more than 40 times in a savage attack in her kitchen has been found guilty of murder.

Gregory Irvin, aged 26, who had racked up £35,000 gambling debts and often took cocaine, is believed to have used Anne James' own breadknife to kill her, then removed a security camera and took her mobile phone to cover his tracks.

The 74-year-old retired nurse and charity volunteer was found dead at her Walsall home by a neighbour who was contacted after concerned family members had been unable to contact

her.

The jury took just two hours to arrive at their unanimous verdict following a 10-day trial at Birmingham Crown Court. Irvin of Bilboe Road, Bilston, who denied the charge, will

Kind, loving and generous, Anne James did not see the bad in anybody - a trait that tragically may have led to her horrific death.

Chaotic

She had operated a Bank of Grandma, giving or lending money to her devoted grandchildren whenever the need arose. She gifted each one \$5,000 to buy their first cars and

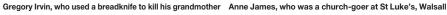
one £5,000 to buy their first cars and would also give them interest-free loans, entering re-payments into a little book she kept in a drawer.

But one of her grandchildren kept coming back for more as his chaotic lifestyle spiralled out of control.

Months before her murder she had given Irvin £1,000 to pay off a gambling debt. He had begged, borrowed and stolen from all his family – including his partner Siana Wilson.

Eventually Mrs James was asked





by her daughter to stop giving him money. It was a request made from the best of motives but it is one that

the best of mouves but it is one that police believe may have caused Irvin ultimately to 'flip'. The busy churchgoing pensioner, a regular at St Luke's in Walsall, made jams and chutneys which she sold for charity, storing the money in cereal packets, tins and drawers around her listed three-storey house in Doveridge Place, Walsall, She had around £2,000 stored around the house at the time of her death.

But none of this money was taken at the time of the fatal attack on February 28, and this gave police an early

Det Insp Harry Harrison, who led the murder investigation, said: "That first night we didn't have a clue who was responsible. Was it a neighbour, a burglar, a stranger murder? There was a building site nearby with work-men milling about. There were a lot of possibilities

"But as we started speaking to family and friends of the deceased, we got

told that Greg was a bit of a problem grandson, with gambling and mental health problems, so there were issues there. There was no forced entry into the house, so no burglary. There was excessive injury, raising the question of mental health

'So our attention focused on the grandson and when we got the CCTV back of the area, showing him arriving and leaving the premises at around the relevant time, it was the break-through we were looking for."

Irvin had been treated for depres-

for region is now at 10-year high

THE MURDER rate in the West Midlands is at its highest in 10 years as new figures show violent crime continues to soar.

tinues to soar.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said there were 79 murders in the wider region in the year to June 2018 - up 30 per cent from the previous year. West Midlands Police (WMP) dealt with 42 killings and there were 10 murders in the area covered by Staffordshire Police.

The figures also show the full extent The figures also show the full extent of the region's knife crime epidemic, which Wolverhampton South East MP Pat McFadden today branded 'among the biggest crises facing the country'. Over the period there were 4,327 incidents involving blades, including 35 murders, 59 cases of attentied murder. 200 theoret to bill tempted murder, 209 threats to kill and 1,907 serious assaults. Overall, total recorded crime has rocketed by seven per cent in the West Midlands.

WMP dealt with a 21 per cent increase in violent crime, a 16 per cent rise in weapons possession, a 23 per cent increase in sexual offences and a 22 per cent spike in robbery. In Staf-fordshire there were huge rises in robbery and weapons possession offences, which showed respective spikes of 30 per cent and 29 per cent.

The figures come as WMP Chief Constable Dave Thompson revealed the force may have to get rid of up to 500 officers due to Government changes in pension contributions

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson, said: "The figures highlight the short-sighted approach of the Government by continuing to apply cuts at a time when the pressures on policing are increasing

'Chemical leak' near rail station

TEN people were taken ill following a suspected chemical leak close to Snow Hill railway station. Emergency services were called to William Booth Lane, off B4100 Old Snow Hill, in Bir-mingham city centre last Wednesday.

Three fire crews from West Mid-ands Fire Service attended alongside ambulance crews including the specialist hazardous area response team.

Police were also called to the scene. It is understood fire crews entered a hostel opposite to the train station around 4pm and headed up to the sec-ond floor of the block. There were reports of people coughing and receiving care from ambulance staff.

West Midlands Fire Service said it was treating the incident as a suspected chemical incident but did not believe it was suspicious.









MEET the kind-hearted fencer who has been offering to fix pensioners fences after the recent storms – and he is only charging a cuppa and some

biscuits. Jon Horne, aged 22, is offering his services to elderly and

vulnerable people after helping a lady whose fence panels blew down panels blew down at the weekend. She was wor-ried about the security of her home but is struggling to keep

Jon Horne

on top of her bills and he decided not to charge her. He said: "I can't believe some of the older generation are in a situation where they have to decide whether to be warm or in this case have a secure fence."

He has since offered his services to people in need for free and all he

has asked for in return is a cup of tea and biscuits for his team at Midlands Fencing & Aggregates. They have had around 1,500 mes-

They have had around 1,500 messages in response and have set up a Go Fund Me page to help with the work which raised more than £1,800 within 24 hours. He added: "Reading messages like we have received today makes you realise how privileged you are to have your health and loved ones and also upsets you to see the situations some people are currently in. "We would love to help everyone who has messaged us but it's physically impossible. We have set up a crowd funding page for anyone who would like to donate to help us help others." To support the team, visit https://www.gofundme.com/mid-

https://www.gofundme.com/mid-lands-fencing-amp-aggregates

Stigma of social housing in focus

CUSTOMERS from landlord whg headed to London to have their say on a new government report into social housing.

Customers Linda Cole, who has been a whg tenant since 2003, and Matt Humphries, spoke to the housing ministry about how the stigma around being a social housing tenant could be addressed.

The Government Green Paper, ti-The Government Green Paper, it-tled "A new deal for social housing", looks at ways to improve fairness, quality and safety to residents living in social housing. Among the five core themes is one that looks at how to tackle stigma and celebrate thriving communities. To get involved visit www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/A_new_deal for social housing



Head Dominic Robson with Nickeal Sidhu

world's best universities.

Nickeal Sidhu and Amrit Kullar

are two of five pupils from the Black Country to have been given the $\pounds 3,000$ cash to send them to Cambridge university and help towards living and tuition costs. The bursaries have been handed out by exam board OCR. Both students are now first in their respec-

tive families to go to university.

Nickeal, from Great Barr, attended Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in Sutton Coldfield and got four A*s in physics and chemistry. Amrit, from Wednesbury, attended King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys and achieved A's in English, his-

tory and religious studies.

Nickeal said: "I am very grateful to have been selected. This bursary will enable me to take full advantage of the many opportunities I will have whilst studying at Cambridge to advance my own knowledge and to help

Amrit added: "It's an honour to be a recipient of the OCR bursary scheme,

provide people from less privileged backgrounds a more even playing field when it comes to university life. For me, personally, it's helped to ease misconceptions about Cambridge and given me the confidence to approach the next three years of my life with

optimism."

Janet Morris, OCR's Chief Executive, said: "For us at OCR, celebrating with the students is one our favourite days in the year. It's not only a chance to mark their success and wish them well on their next steps.

the authority to respond to changing trends in demand for pupil places. Firms listed in top 20 as best

Expansion of five

schools delaved

THE expansion of five schools in Walsall is to be delayed by a year, it has been revealed.

Council chiefs said funding changes meant Manor Primary School, St Mi-chael's CoE Primary School, Short Heath Junior School, Mary Eliot

School and Oakwood School, would now have extra places in September

2020 rather than next year as was

The expansions at the schools will

create hundreds of new places once they do go ahead. A Council report said the delay was 'in order to allow

A PAIR of Black Country-based businesses have been named in a new top 20 of UK firms with the best workplace leadership and culture.

Wolverhampton's housing group Bromford is in 11th place

Bromford is in 11th place.

Meanwhile, Walsall's HomeServe in 15th in the table, which has been compiled through research by the Chartered Management Institute as well as the jobs website Glassdoor, with information posted by employees of businesses on the website.

Management Consultancy Bain & Company was top of the list.

College swimmers celebrate success

A SQUAD of young swimmers are celebrating their triumphant sporting achievements.

Students from Tettenhall College competed in the 2018/19 ISA Midlands Regional Championship at Walsall Gala Swimming and Fitness Centre. The strong swimmers included a Year 6 team which beat off competition in

the freestyle and medley relays.

The young pupils – Charlie Welch,
Oscar Ward, Sammy McDonnell and Ben Jones – were named ISA Midland Swimming Champions (U12 Boys) on October 9.

Two Tone days are recalled in city gig

AN eight-piece ska group have an

The Superskas, who perform hits from the golden ages of Trojan and Two Tone, will be in action at Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, Wolverhampton, at 7.30pm.

The band has appeared with Damon Albarn of Blur, Dave Wakeling, Rank-ing Roger and The Beat.

Tickets costing £10 are available from the box office on 01902 572090.

Bird hits out as profits for Saddlers Centre fall

PROFITS at the Saddlers Centre have slumped to less than £200,000 since Walsall Council's controversial deal to buy it.

The figure is markedly less than predicted by the borough's Labour group, which took out a £13.8m loan to buy the centre when it was in power in August

The authority is now under Tory control, and council leader Mike Bird has accused Labour of

lumbering them with a 'huge white elephant'.

He is even considering calling in external auditors to examine the original deal to buy the

Labour has hit back, insisting the centre was a good investment.

A report to the council says the estimated anand £184,000.

In March, Labour leader Sean Coughlan

said the forecasted revenue profit for the first seven months of council ownership would be £506,000.

Since then the centre has been hit by the decision of Marks & Spencer to pull out, while a significant number of other units remain

Auditors

Councillor Bird added: "We are seriously

Councillor Bird added: "We are seriously concerned about what happens when the loan comes to an end. Will there be enough capital to pay off the balance?
"This is a huge white elephant and it may well be that we bring in external auditors to look at the procedure the Labour group went

look at the procedure the Labour group wenthrough."
Councillor Lee Jeavons, the Labour group's deputy leader, said: "It is still giving the council a net profit.
"The main reason for buying it was that it gives us control of the main gateway to the town centre and any future developments in and around Station Street.
"This is vitally important, as with the arrival of HS2 Walsall's future will depend on its connectivity."

nectivity.

Hap-pie butchers celebrate 40 years



Julie and Paul Foster from Alan Foster Butchers dig into some celebratory pork pies

AN old-fashioned butchers is celebrating 40 years in business.

Family-run business Alan Foster Butchers in High Street, Aldridge, opened in 1978.

It was started up by Alan Foster after the shop he managed, Dewhurst Butchers in Dudley Street, Wolverhampton, shut down.

Husband and wife, Paul, aged 51, and Julie Foster, 45, currently run the shop where they chop, cook and sell meat and pastries.

Mr Foster started working there after he left school when he was 16 and inherited the business from his uncle when he died seven years ago. He said: "Customers

love coming into an old-fashioned butchers, it is really nostalgic for them. It is a very niche market and the industry has taken a hit from big supermarkets but we are still going strong.

"We are very modern in a sense because we cure our own bacon and make our own pies."

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IN MY VIEW

When fast still meant top marks in design

FIFTEEN years ago this week, crowds gathered around Heathrow Airport, their noses pressed against the perimeter wire. As the flight from New York to Lon-

wire. As the flight from New York to London touched the runway, there was barely a dry eye in the audience.

The plane in question was Concorde, and the journey the world's last supersonic flight. Incredibly, next year also marks the 50th anniversary since it first took to the air. Even today, Concorde is a remarkable feat of engineering. Easter a remarkable feat of engineering. Faster than the speed of sound, it got you from London to New York in about the same time it took to drive to the airport.

And this year also marks 80 years since Mallard broke the world speed record, hitting 12mph near Grantham. Like Con-Mallard was remarkable not only for what it achieved, but also for its beau ty of design. Look at its sleek, futuristic lines, and contrast them with the shabby old multiple units you find running today's

commuter routes.

The 20th century was the age of the artist engineer, visionaries who achieved the impossible and created something beautiful. Whereas today's technology revolves around dreary computers and phone apps, creating a generation of introverted teenagers and putting our high streets out of business.

ON the plus side, advances in robot technology mean we will only need to work a four-day week. At least that's what shadow chancellor John McDonnell says. The other way of looking at it is that, as robots render human labour obsolete, countless jobs will be lost and millions thrown onto the dole. Based on past experience, which do you think is more likely?

000

AS we look ahead to the festival of Remembrance, I suppose it wouldn't be the same without the usual suspects enjoying their 15 minutes of fame by sounding of a note of rebellion

of a note of rebellion.
But in years gone by, it used to be pretty benign stuff, like CND leader Bruce Kent wearing a white poppy. These days it seems to be much nastier.
Earlier this month Prof Kehinde Andrews of Birmingham City University delead that Wington Cityphili was point.

clared that Winston Churchill was racist Hardly original, but it was his comments that followed that send a chill down the spine. He added: "The truth is Hitler was a great military leader, a product of his time, and if they won the war we would be having this discussion now." How is he still in a job?

007 comment and the twitterwaves are buzzing



Jonathan Dimbleby - blames social media for decline of reasoned discussion



Jodie Whittaker - the new Doctor Who uses her brain instead to disarm villains



Piers Morgan – accused over suggestion that he made on Daniel Craig

Oh baby! I just hate all this 'crime' talk

PIERS Morgan was probably guilty of some terrible hate crime this week when he suggested that Daniel Craig carrying his baby in a papoose showed that 007 had been emasculated. In Morgan's book, real men carry kids in their big hairy arms. As night follows day, women took to the twitterwaves to declare that there is nothing so manly as a bloke carrying his baby in a papoose. And there's nothing so embarrassed as a bloke whose woman feels she has to tell the world that he's manly. Some things are better

WHITEHALL is looking at proposals to extend hate crimes to cover the abuse of people based on their age or gender. Bang goes my fan mail.

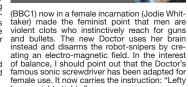
REMEMBER the row at the National Trust last summer when volunteers were "invited" to wear badges celebrating a gay-pride campaign? Some felt uncomfortable at the idea and either Some felt uncomfortable at the idea and either stayed away or were relegated to back-room jobs. For an organisation usually associated with genteel English gardens and tea on the lawn, the NT were behaving in a nasty, bullying way. When the story hit the papers and NT members started cancelling their subscriptions, the Trust backed days. So what will be papers at the Trust backed down. So what will happen at the BBC to staff who choose not to wear "LGBT ally" badges which have been designed to show support to LGBT colleagues? We are watching.

INCIDENTALLY, the term "jerk" may be a hate crime against jerks. Guilty as charged.

GENDER-stereotype alert. Doctor Who

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

loosey, righty tighty."



NEW research suggests that fish which are NEW research suggests that tish which are caught and then released are unable to feed properly because the hook damages their lip. Reports referred to anglers "throwing the fish back." This is an offensive term. Genuine anglers never throw a fish anywhere. They handle their catch gently, if only because they want it to be fighting fit for the next weekend. I have never understood coarse fishing but they do seem to respect their rev. And so too do we game to respect their prey. And so, too, do we game fishers. The difference is that we knock the trout or salmon on the head and have it for tea. Which is, of course, the fish's fault for being delicious.

JONATHAN Dimbleby blames the anti-social side of social media for the decline of reasoned discussion on TV and radio, declaring: "Debate generally has deteriorated in almost direct pro-

Summer

portion to the amount of stuff that is uttered. We get more and more words and fewer and few-er thoughts." Memo to JD: Get a grip. You and your brother David chair two of the BBC's flagship discussion shows, you with Any Questions (R4) and David with Question Time (BBC1). If the quality of national debate has fallen, you Brothers Dimbleby must take some of the blame.

FOR a kick-off, they should halt the growing trend of "straw man" arguments when someone misquotes an earlier speaker to refute a claim that was never made in the first place. It happened recently on Question Time when a man in the audience asserted that "the UK is one of the least racist societies across Europe.' the least racts societies across Europe. The was promptly denounced by a Muslim woman as "a white man saying that there's no racism in this country." He had said no such thing but Dimbleby didn't point it out and the audience erupted with mob-like applause.

WE hacks get the straw-man treatment all the We hacks get the straw-man treatment all the time. Not long ago, on the subject of privatising the railways, an emailer accused me: "Bet you supported it at the time, Mr Rhodes, so an apology is in order." As far as I can recall I never wrote about rail privatisation, let alone supported it (although I was resolutely against water privatisation). No matter. In today's anti-social media world, you can be pilloried not only for what to recid but for what to me isor thinks you. what you said but for what some jerk thinks you

DOES anybody have a backstop to prevent the endless use of the word "backstop"?

TALKING POINT

Horror of horrors this is all down to us

ONCE a year it is legitimate, in fact encouraged, for children to don terrifying masks and demand money with menaces from people sitting in their own homes.

from people sitting in their own nomes. As darkness falls, a knock comes at the door as, what is often a pack of ghoulish, little creatures, sneer 'trick or treat'. The 'victim' must then pay up with a treat of some kind or face retribution – an egging being the most popular trick. It sounds almost barbarian doesn't it? But this accentable form of robbery is

But this acceptable form of robbery is sold to us as harmless Halloween fun.

It is easy to blame yet more of the American culture sweeping over the Atlantic New York to more on the American culture sweeping over the Atlantic New York to more than the commercial than the programmer of the American culture when you want to make the more than the programmer of the commercial than the more than the programmer of the programme

American culture sweeping over the At-lantic. Not to mention the commercial infiltration which sees our high streets filled with Halloween costumes, banners, treats etc. But in fact, Britain is the birth-place of Halloween with the tradition having begun as the Festival of Samhain and part of the ancient Celtic religion.

The Celts believed that at the end of

summer, the barrier between our world and the spirit world got really thin and ghouls could wander the Earth. So the festival was essentially a huge party to come away the spirits.

festival was essentially a huge party to scare away the spirits.

Trick or treating actually goes back, in some form, to the 16th century in Britain. So though we may grumble about the expense, the repeated knocks at the door on October 31, and the requirement on parents to escort their little muggers on trick or treat escanders we never have trick-or-treat escapades, we only have ourselves to blame. But actually this British tradition can actually be fun. I always enjoyed the cos-

actually be full. Talways enjoyed the cos-turne drama of dressing up my children. I liked to decorate the house and have a cauldron full of sweets ready. However, there is a 'but' – and that is the worry it

poses for the elderly and vulnerable.

How terrifying must it be to look out of your window and see someone in one of those horrid 'Scream' masks for example

Parents and children must be sensible when trawling the streets looking for 'trick or treat' targets. Decorated homes clearly invite callers but if they look like an elderly person may live there, perhaps a bunga-low, don't be a nuisance.

If the door is not answered promptly walk away. Try to stay close to home where you are more familiar with neighbours.

While the children may be having a scream, remember to others they are frightening young terrors demanding money with menaces.

May everyone have the Halloween they

hope for and only the spirits be frightened





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AS a no-voter in the 1975 referendum side of a bus. We do know the different and one of the 17.4m leave voters in ence between example and fact. 2016, we leave voters hear Europhiles constantly droning on about how amazing and wonderful the EU is, how constantly it is vital to the UK for the economy. jobs and trade, worshiping it almost as if it is a new religion.

Eurosceptics have heard your Europhile insults, calling us unintelligent, uneducated, racist, dim-witted idiots, too thick and stupid to understand the too thick and stupid to understand the situation or know what we were votted. EU, project fear marks 1-3 and still ing for. We are told that we were lied uponey ov. Please do us all a favour to with the £350m for the NHS on the and put a sock in it, change the record.

STEATHAM

Darlaston

ence between example and fact.

The possibility that the leave campaign broke electoral funding rules, therefore, the referendum was illegal and should be put to us again. That leave voters are the older generation who will soon no longer be around and it is you Europhiles and the younger generation who will have your lives. generation who will have your lives ruined and have to suffer the conse-

of higher intelligence and education they were right and we are wrong, the was undemocratic, advisory if so, the Government booklet and David Cameron PM lied with the 'we

will carry out your choice' comment.

There are two sides to every story The European project has been sold to us all as one idea but underneath it all lies something completely different smoke and mirrors or as I think of it,

Council urged to consider service

EARLIER this year, Gateshead Borough Council became the first council to launch the first council-owned funeral director service. I hope that other councils, including Walsall will look carefully at this. The Gateshead Council's funeral director offers a basic package from £1,500 to a 'high quality' package, complete with limos and an engraved oak coffin for just under £4,000.

The council has set up its own company to offer such services. The company is run by an experienced director who previously worked for a 'high end' private firm. Funerals

are becoming more and more expensive and increasing numbers of bereaved families just cannot afford them, especially those with no or limited insurance cover.

There is a requirement of privately-run funeral directors who are members of the trade association (the NAFD) to give everyone who enquires about the price of their services, a written estimate. The estimate should break down the price of each com-ponent service that is offered. However, do all private funeral directors meet this re-

Many bereaved find that there are mouen costs that seem to surface later rather than sooner. At the sad and emotionally charged time of a family death, people can be at their most vulnerable and it is possible for some funeral directors to take advantage of Many bereaved find that there are hidden some funeral directors to take advantage of this. I call upon Walsall Council to consider

PÉTE SMITH

Former councillor and Mayor of Walsall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

graeme.andrew@expressandstar. co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the ac-curacy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. If we cannot reach a resolution

contact Ipso at complaints@ipso. co.uk or by post at Ipso, c/o Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, Lon-don, EC4M 7LG

For press treeson-with respecubility

A bunch of

I UNDERSTAND that we are in an age of austerity, but are we also in an age of untidiness? I was wondering why all councils around the West Midlands and Stafford-

Is there anyone out there that is as outraged as me about this situation? Or is it just me with my mid-life crisis? Can we please have grass boxes returned to mow-

MANY of your column writers and letter writers are still using the term Remoaners. This is just a

I refer to those leavers who call remainers Remoaners and also those leavers who have no facts to support their fantasies. As yet I have not met a single leaver who is in possession of the facts.



Mowers need to have grass boxes on them

shire have decided to ditch grass boxes.

Our parks and other grassed areas are now being mown and all the grass debris left in great big rows of grass or thrown into the path or kerbside of roads, to be walked into houses or collect on pushchair wheels.

MRS V HEWITT

Shepley

100

HEAD OFFICE

cheap attempt to avoid legitimate debate.

In future I will use the term The Brexitedious when

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my skin cancer scars

A SCARRED cancer survivor 'left looking like a monster' because she couldn't afford £5,000 plastic surgery spent four years studying to fix her

own face - for just £150. Charlie Battisson, from Walsall, was left with a massive scar across her forehead, and another which caused her evebrows to be permanently raised after battling

permanently raised after battling aggressive skin cancer in 2014.

The 38-year-old's confidence plummeted and she was desperate to undergo plastic surgery to correct the disfigurement but was left devastated when she realised she couldn't afford the £5,000 fees. So thrifty Charlie—who was training to be a hairdresser at who was training to be a hairdresser at the time – decided to learn how to fix her own face and spent months studying and passing six exams.



She performed corrective Botox and micro-blading procedures on herself at a cost of just £150 and is now able to

face the world again.

Charlie, who lives in Rushall, said:
"My facial scars had left my face deformed and I was so self-conscious that I wouldn't leave the house. I knew that I couldn't keep going with my face being wonky it was making me very depressed. But when I found out how much surgery would cost, I knew I wouldn't be able to afford it. "So I decided to go to classes, get the materials, and fix my face on my own

materiais, and its my face on my own

because it was that or living with
the scar! I passed my Botox, cosmetic
filler, micro-blading and chemical peel
courses, I started to feel great again,
and that's why I decided to do set it up so I could help others feel good again too." Charlie was diagnosed with Squa-





After the lump's removal

Charlie, who is now an expert in Botox use

mous Cell Carcinoma in January 2014, after initially dismissing her cancerous lump as a stubborn blackhead.

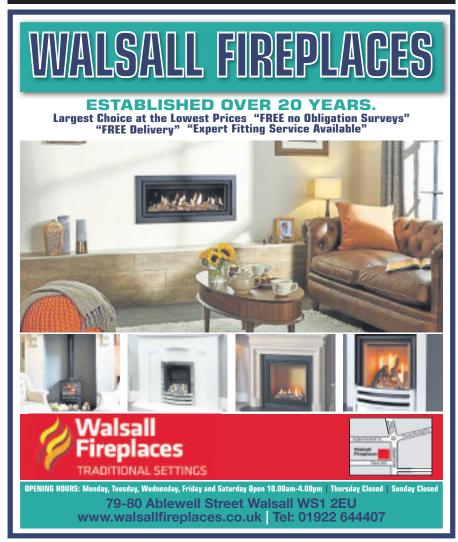
And within one month, the beautician had her face cut apart in multi-ple places, to remove all of the cancer, leaving her covered in scars.

Charlie, who now runs her own cosmetics company C B Beautiful SPMU & Aesthetic, said: "At first I was a bit nervous performing it on myself, but I knew it was the only way I could fix

Charlie with her facial scars my face. I went for courses and learnt how to do all of the procedures, and

I bought materials to sort myself out Overall it cost me roughly £150 to correct my face, and I just have to keep topping up my Botox and micro-blading on my eyebrows when my face starts to slip.

"I'm trying to teach people that scars don't have to define you and don't have to mean the end of self-con-





Father of autistic girl beats gagging order

Kem's a cut above



Top barber Kem Johnson made a special visit to Walsall

College to give hairdressing students a rare masterclass.

A BARBER who has catered to the stars has been sharing the tricks of the trade with youngsters. Kem Johnson made a special visit to Walsall College to give hairdressing and barbering students a rare masterclass.

The 34-year-old, who lives in Darlaston, revealed his tips on how to craft the perfect style before revealing his success story. Nichola Arrowsmith, barbering tutor at Walsall College, said: "We aim to give our students as much exposure as possible to the industry, providing them with the skills and knowledge that will help them build a foundation in the career they want to enter.

During his decade-long career, Mr Johnson has served Wolverhampton-born footballer Ashley Williams and Sandwell-born footballer Omar Bogle, as well as athletes from the US 2012 Olympic team.

A DEVASTATED father who was gagged by a council after he criticised his severely autistic daughter's care says he was 'disgusted by the authority's actions.

The 50-year-old, who has been named only as Jere

my, launched a social media campaign as he believed his 17-year-old daughter Bethany, from Walsall, had

been placed in a care unit unfit for her needs. She has been in a facility in Northampton for nearly two years and the heart-pital. He said he continued to the said he co two years and the neart-broken dad said he had been forced to kneel down and speak to his daughter through a metal hatch. He insists the setting is not suitable for Bethany

and, rather than helping, is harming her and she is becoming increasingly scared and anxious due to her condition – pathological demand avoidance (PDA).

Walsall Council tried to silence the former college lecturer by taking out an injunction but the outraged injunction but the outraged father is now free to speak out after winning a High Court battle, which has landed the authority with a hefty legal bill. It's claimed Bethany's care is costing the NHS £13,000 a week. Council bosses launched action after getting wind of Jeremy's complaints on Facebook and Twitter.

Jeremy said he felt the council tried to silence him to protect its reputation. However, bosses at the authority said they took action to try to protect Bethany's privacy. The teenager was placed at St Andrews Hos-

By Richard Guttridge

pital. He said he decided to speak out 'because of her plight'. Jeremy said: "She found herself in siolation before she was moved into what I call a seclusion room – a 10x12 cell with a metal door. She was falling apart in front of my eyes I apart in front of my eyes. I tweeted about it and then was asked to go on a radio

programme. "Walsall Council ap proached me and asked me to stop tweeting as they felt it was invading Bethany's privacy. They then told me they were serving an injunction on me.

Jeremy, who is now a truck driver and lives in Harborne, Birmingham, was shocked by the actions of the local authority. Charity Mencap hired two

Charity Mencap nired two top barristers to fight his case. Walsall Council did not "Walsall Council did not seek an injunction to stop a father from making public statements about the care of his daughter but a rather narrower restriction on the publication of information such as could or might iden-tify her."



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Historic school is taken over by firm

AN historic former school in Willenhall has been given a new lease of life after being taken over by a business.

The old Little London JMI School, on Stafford Street, where the icon-ic clock tower still stands, has been transformed into the headquarters of Wedge Group Galvanising, which has

wedge Group Galvanising, which has been based in the town for 150 years.

The move is part of a multi-million investment which has seen the former school undergo a complete refurbishment, transforming it from a crumbling relic. Little London closed more than a decade ago and had been abandoned ever since.

The firm, which is the largest hot-dip reliancing organization in the LIK with

galvanising organisation in the UK with 14 plants around the country, has its roots

in Willenhall with records showing John Wedge to be running a galvanising business in the town as early as 1869.

It has been based at its current site, further along in Stafford Street, since 1876, but home admissed by several transfer.

but bosses decided a bigger site was needed for around 20 staff. The clock tower has been refurbished and protected as part of the redevelopment.

Wedge managing director Chris Wool-ridge said: "We're very much looking for-ward to opening our new headquarters on ward to opening our new headquarters on the very street where the foundations of our business began. We're also thrilled to have restored the clock tower, which is of great significance to residents of the town.

"Our investment will see this historic site, which has been derelict for more than a decade, given a brand new lease of life and the opportunity to be a revered landmark in the community once again."

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Mayoress thanks local heroes for their efforts



Andrea and Marco Longhi, front centre, with their guests at the Mayoress at Home event

HUNDREDS of volunteers turned out at Walsall Town Hall to raise money for charity and celebrate the work of community members.

Mayoress of Walsall Andrea Longhi was joined by Mayor Marco Longhi in hosting the Mayoress at Home event where the pair met volunteers and fundraisers from across the town.

More than 300 people turned out

to celebrate the work of volunteers as well as raising hundreds of pounds for local charity WPH Counselling.

A raffle on the night raised just under £500 with donation boxes on the tables bringing in just under £200.

Mrs Longhi said

the tables bringing in just under £200. Mrs Longhi, said:
"The event went very well and we were very pleased with the outcome."
Mr Longhi, said: "Big companies such as Tesco, Asda and Morrison's were there as many people working there do a lot of work for the community to in their roles so it was a thank nity too in their roles, so it was a thank you to them as well. It's very impor-tant, these people are unsung heroes and deserve a thank you.

"It was brilliant to have a sit down with tea and cakes and raise some more money as well as celebrating the

volunteers, it was a win-win for every

"A lot of the money raised for WPH Counselling will go towards mental health services for young people and only for the people of Walsall."

"The impact is huge, last year we raised around £70,000 and we're hoping for something similar this year, it's a huge amount of money to a small

charity.

"It's enormous, the charity does great work and the impact is vast and

"The advantage of choosing a small charity is that you can clearly see the benefit the money makes."



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Family firm strives to make funeral service lasting memory

Commercial feature

Jennifer Ashe & Son Funeral Directors works hard for its clients to turn a funeral service into an everlasting memory.

The company aims to be on hand, day-in, day-out, to support bereaved families at the time when they most need it. In November 2016, Jennifer, along with her son, John, decided to form the business, setting up a branch on Brownhills High Street.

The decision to open a funeral directors came from one special inspiration – the memory of Jennifer's mother, and John's grandmother, Norma Ashe.

Described by her relatives as "a fierce family woman", Norma unfortunately passed away at the beginning of 2016. As much as this led to despair for the family, Jennifer and John built on her inspirational attitude to life.

A spokesperson for the company said: "We appropriately placed her name above the door of 'Norma House', to remind us of the core family values we hold as a company, and that's what makes us a true family funeral directors."

Today, the company operates with care, consideration and a strong sense of values. "The thought of organising a funeral for a wife, grandfather or even a child can be a daunting process for somebody, especially when the responsibility of arranging the funeral lies totally and solely on one individual," said the spokesperson. "That is why nothing is too much to





Above left: Jennifer Ashe, front, with the team, from left, John Ashe, Joe Evans, Richard Blick and Karen Scott, and right, the premises in High Street, Brownhills

ask and we will do everything within our power to ensure our families can go to bed at night, rest assured that everything is being taken care of, and feeling confident that their loved one's funeral wishes are being seen to appropriately."

Jennifer Ashe & Son takes pride in offering a cost-effective and transparent service. "Funerals and plans don't need to be expensive," added the spokesperson. "We're perfectly transparent with our pricing. There are no hidden costs that we show to the family. This is proven by our £2,750 package. Families often ask, is that all we'll have to pay?' and our answer is always 'yes'."

Jennifer Ashe & Son always aims to ensure its clients receive great quality for what they pay for. The company also prides itself on the level of service it can deliver as an independent business. "By 'great quality', we don't mean just in the way we conduct ourselves on the day of the funeral. We also ensure several additional factors about our company are second to none. For example, our order of service booklets are outstanding," said the spokesperson.

"Using an independent family-run funeral directors can also be much more personal as we have more time to focus on giving our families the amount of time that they deserve." Guided by a strong moral philosophy, Jennifer Ashe & Son has gone from strength to strength since the company's inception, and is committed to continuing to offer a truly empathetic and professional service to all those in need of it."

For more information, 01543 378 022, email: john@jafunerals.co.uk; or view the website at www.jafunerals.co.uk.



The buzz on the street, is that 50 is the new 30. with people living longer and taking better care of themselves, those who used to be thought of as "over the hill" are now as active and vibrant as their 30 year old counterparts - and they are committed to staying that way.

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Wolves fan hit Baggies supporters on train

ed two teenage Baggies fans on a train, a court has heard.

Andrew Cushley, of Swancroft Road, Tipton, appeared before Walsall Magistrates Court last

Thursday.
The 47-year-old pleaded guilty to two charges of common assault, but only on the basis the teenagers had been verbally assaulting his friend, and the assault was not football re-

But prosecuting, Alisha Bartimus dismissed his claims and said Cushley had approached the two teenagers, saying, 'Albion youth are we?'.

She added it was an unprovoked at-

tack by the Wolves fan.

Unprovoked

The charges related to an incident on a train in Wolverhampton on Sep-

tember 29.
Shabeer Qureshi, defending, said:
"The basis of plea the defendant will
plead guilty to – charges of common
assault – are the defendant was on the
train and was informed by a female friend she had been verbally abused

by two teenagers in a group.

"The defendant approached them about their behaviour and upsetting his friend. The group were all intox-

"The defendant asked if they liked

abusing women and they laughed.
"He threw three or four punches.
The defendant accepts his actions

were reckless.

"The defendant denies any football teams were mentioned and this was not football related."

But Mrs Bartimus said the basis of the plea was not acceptable to the



Andrew Cushley - his case was adjourned for a pre-sentence report to be prepared

"The victims are 17 years of age,"

she said.
"The victims were West Bromwich Albion supporters and on the train the defendant approached them and said words similar to, 'Albion youth are

"The victims were both punched to the face area. The crown say it was completely unprovoked and was football related.

"It has been some time since the defendant has been before the courts.

Chairman of the magistrates, Claire Brentnall, accepted his basis of plea
as they felt it would not make a
significant difference to the sentence and adjourned for three weeks for a pre-sentence report to be prepared.

Cushley will next appear back before Walsall Magistrates Court on Novem-

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75 years and 'not out' — Taylors are on the move

Commercial feature

After occupying the current site at Sunnyside Farm for the last 75 years, Taylors Auto is on the move.

The family business is relocating half a mile away, still on Northgate in Walsall Wood, to Comlec Units, on the painted island, situated on the corner of Northgate/ Northgate Way, WS9 8TH.

As Director of the business, Roy offers his sincere assurances that nothing will be changing, including the prices. He explained: "A bigger and better location does not mean bigger prices.

Contact

Roy and the team at Taylors Auto remain focused on providing quality assured vehicle repairs at affordable prices, together with an honest MoT service.

Taylors Auto will be operating alongside the current Comlec business which specialises in DC motor repairs – both contact numbers remain the same.

Taylors Auto would like to thank their loyal customers for their support over the years and hope they will continue the journey with them on the short half mile trip down the road.

Taylors Auto will be trading from the new address with effect from December 1 2018



Roy and the team continue to focus on top, affordable vehicle repairs and MoTs

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Chase set to be mountain bike venue for games

THE organisers of the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham have confirmed the 17 sports and 12 venues – including in Cannock Chase and Sandwell - that will definitely be used

Sandwell – that will definitely be used for the 11-day event.

The programme includes all of the Commonwealth Games Federation's mandatory sports plus 3x3 basketball, diving, mountain biking, para-triathlon, rhythmic gymnastics, track cycling, track para-cycling and wheelchair bas-ketball from the list of optional sports. Archery, beach volleyball, cricket, pa-ra-table tennis and shooting are not cur-

Archery, beach volleybal, chicket, para-table tennis and shooting are not currently on the list but may be added after a review of costs and athlete numbers is completed in the spring.

Twelve of the 17 sports confirmed at a launch event at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre on Friday will be staged in existing venues across the city.

The NEC itself hosts boxing, judo, table tennis, weightlifting and wrestling, while badminton takes place in the NEC Arena. Gymnastics' home will be Arena Birmingham, while Birmingham University will stage the hockey and squash, with the rugby sevens at Villa Park. The athletics and opening and closing ceremonies will be at an upgraded Alexander Stadium. graded Alexander Stadium.

graded Alexander Stadium.
The triathlon will be staged at Sutton
Park and Sandwell's new pool is hosting the diving and swimming. In a bid to
keep costs down and spread the benefits
of staging the Games, the lawn bowls
will take place at Royal Leamington Spa, Cannock Chase hosts the mountain biking and the netball competition will be hosted by the Coventry Arena.

The only venue not in the West Midlands will be London's Lee Valley Velo Park, which hosts the track cycling a decade after it was one of London 2012's

most popular stages.

The Games will take place from July 27 to August 7.

Night of fun at festival of light

THOUSANDS of people packed into a park for a religious festival. Diwali Mela Hindu Festival of Light took place in Phoenix Park, near Blakenhall, on Saturday.

near Blakenhall, on Saturday.

It included performances from Punjabi singer Harbhajan Talwar, Bhangra drummers and Punjabi dancers. There was also a huge freworks display, which saw the skies lit up with bright colours.

A funfair was held and a lightswitch on illuminated Dudley.

A funfair was held and a lights-switch on illuminated Dudley Road. The event saw thousands of residents turn out for an evening of fun, as well as civic dignitaries including the Mayor and Mayoress of Wolverhampton, Councillor Phil Page and Elaine Hadley-Howell, and MP for Wol-webbarnter, South West Flagor, werhampton South West Eleanor Smith. Event manager Laura Gil-yead said: "The Hindu Festival of Light went really well."



The fireworks display at the Diwali Mela Hindu Festival of Light

Breakdown of gripes over Walsall council

SEVENTY-TWO complaints about Walsall council were received during the financial year 2017/18, a report shows.

The figures were down from 79 from the previous rear, were reported by the Local Government and

Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO). Its role is to investigate complaints about the range of local authority functions and services.

The complaints received showed 17 were made in relation to adult care services, seven on benefits and retained to dudin care services, seven on benefits and tax, seven on corporate and other services, 19 on education and children's services, four on environment services, five on highways and transport, three on housing, and 10 on planning and development.

Of the 72 complaints made about various council

services, 71 were upheld and advice given on one matter. In a letter to Walsall Council's chief executive Dr Helen Paterson, LGSCO Michael King said: not, in itself, indicate the quality of the council's per-

"High volumes of complaints can be a sign of an open, learning organisation, as well as sometimes being an early warning of wider problems. Low complaint volumes can be a worrying sign an organisation is not alive to user feedback. Last year, we highlighted our plans to move away from a simplistic focus on complaint volumes and instead turn our feets, and the lessons that any he learned and the focus onto the lessons that can be learned and the wider improvements we can achieve.

Walsall Council assurance officer John Pryce-Jones added: "The Ombudsman can investigate com-plaints about how the council has done something, looking at the council's administrative practice, and at how the service has acted in the matter concerned. but cannot question what a council has done simply because someone does not agree with the outcome."

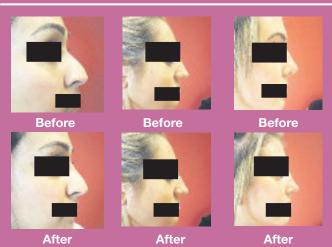


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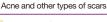


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a bid to help tackle homelessness.

Hospital bosses will inform the

local authority when homeless people are being discharged to try and ensure they receive support. It is part of a plan to improve communication between the two bodies in an effort to stop vulnerable people slipping through the net.

Council chiefs have stepped up efforts to tackle homelessness in the borough over the last year, including extending the opening of a refuge centre earlier this year due to the cold weather. It is also hoped it will prevent homeless people returning to hospital, freeing up much-needed beds.

Councillor Diane Coughlan, who has helped lead efforts to tackle home-lessness in Walsall, said: "It is a must because people spend time in hospital, they get fit for discharge and are effectively discharged back onto the street. How long is it before they end up back in hospital? It's a win-win situation."

*Homeless Neigh-bourly Paige races out for in spotlight Neigh-bourly Paige races a drink when she's a little hoarse

YOU can lead a horse to a bar. . . but you can't buy it a drink.

That's what owner Tom Dudley and his six-year-old horse Paige found out earlier this month as the pair went for a drink at The Sir Henry Newbolt in Bilston.

Sir Henry Newbolt in Bilston.
Mr Dudley, from Skemp Close,
Bilston, said he and his female horse
'wanted a drink' when they were out
for a walk in the town centre.
He added: "I was going past the
Wetherspoons and I wanted a drink
and the horse said she wanted one as
well with a 'neigh'.

well with a 'neigh'.
"I think she wanted a drop of whis-

key to warm her up.
"She was cold so I took her in with
me. They were all clapping when I
walked in."



Tom with his horse Paige in his front room, right, and in the pub, left A regular sight - Tom and Paige out for a walk

The pair were in the pub for around said: "[It's because] It's an 'oss in the five minutes but were asked to leave pub!" The 62-year-old, who has had by pub staff. Asked why, one worker Paige for four years, said of his com-

panion: "We're bang on - we're very close and she follows me anywhere and

and father had the same with horses.
"I keep her in a stable in a field nearby and the kids come over to stroke her and feed her.

Mr Dudley added: "It's like taking a dog for a walk, I take the horse for a

walk in the town and the kids love her "She comes into my home if it's cold.
I'll keep her warm and then I take her

back out and put a blanket on her.
"She likes to play about, she's very
playful and the kids ride her in the

"I live about 10 minutes from the town centre and I regularly take her

on walks. "She's brilliant with me. She knows

"She's brilliant with me. She knows when I'm coming and all the neigh-bours love her to pieces. She follows me almost everywhere – a bit like a dog."

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Comments from parents have included: "My child is passionate about QMHS, and she takes pride in attending" and "My child has settled in very well: there is a good balance between intellectual rigour and extracurricular activity". Students have

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The Chronicle

Thursday, October 25, 2018



For ladies, gentlemen and those who haven't made their mind up - a scene from Kinky Boots at the Grand Theatre this week

Kinky Boots, Wolverhampton Grand BIG and bootiful with lots of heart and sole, this West End musical strode into the Grand with plenty of glitz, glam-our and confident swagger.

Certainly, the Wolverhampton au-

dience were on their feet to give this hit show a standing ovation and more than two hours of entertainment

than two hours of entertainment.
It is based on a film that was itself
based on a true story about a failing
Northampton shoe factory that was
rescued when it discovered a niche
market creating sexy women's boots
for more for men.

This gleefully outrageous show featuring a troupe of dazzling female impersonators – the Angels – is tur-bo-driven by new songs written by 80s pop icon Cyndia Lauper and a sharptongued script from actor and writer

Harvey Fierstein. It revolves around the fabulous Lola, the flamboyant and audacious high-heeled drag queen persona of mild-mannered Simon from Clacton. Lola is persuaded to turn designer by other lead character Charlie. who has been forced by circumstance to take over the family business.

Both, it transpires, are living in their father's shadows and together they find acceptance.

On Wednesday Lola was played by Kayi Ushe rather than the anticipated star Callum Francis but the standby rose to the occasion with a five-star performance, in which he was equally adept at power ballads and disco num-

bers.
Joe Harper-Jackson was also com-pelling as Charlie with strong support from Helen Ternent as his disap-

pointed fiancee and an excellent comic turn from Paula Lane as lovesick worker Lauren. She squeezed every ounce of humour from her big number The History of Wrong Guys.

There was a technical hitch on the night which delayed the act one clos-ing number by ten minutes. But it was worth the wait for Everybody Say Yeah, in which the factory conveyor belt was turned into a catwalk/travelator on which the cast show some very fancy footwork

The supporting cast also includes Staffordshire's former X Factor finalist Niki Evans as factory worker Trish, showing she has acting skills to

go with that soulful voice.

Kinky Boots is at the Grand until Saturday.

Leon Burakowski

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Soldiers and locals pose for a picture outside the Royal Oak pub, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich Walsall Tank Week, which ran from March 25 to 30, 1918 Territorial soldiers march past in Lichfield Street, on their way to war, August 11,



Walsall Town Hall, 1915 – gifts were given to local sol-



Food economy exhibition held by the Food Control Campaign Committee at the Temperance Hall in Freer Street

Collection focuses on life during Great War

AN exhibition showing what life was like during the First World War is on display at Walsall Local History Centre.

The display, Walsall's Great War, is available to view at the venue in Essex Street, in the town centre Walsall. Images from the archive's collection have been reproduced and enlarged 30 times.

produced and enlarged 30 times. Senior archives/conservation assistant Stuart Williams, who helped with selecting the photographs for the exhibition, said: "We've produced 30 items from the collection of the history centre which is relevant to the people who live in this area.

Evocative

"It's a mix of period photographs, archive documents, ephemera and other material.

The centenary is taking place over four years and we need to celebrate it.

"I think it's a good idea to make it visible – not only servicemen were

involved, the First World War had a significant impact on life in the area which we try to show."

The 59-year-old said: "I always like

the photographs because, I think, they

are evocative.

"I've got everything from the men
of Walsall marching off down Lichfield
Street right through to the peace celebrations in Bloxwich.

"Three colleagues including myself looked after the photographs.
"I produced the exhibition with all

the scanning and it's all mounted on boards.

"It's on now so it will cover the

remainder of the centenary com-memorations – there will be a public announcement when it's moved on. The exhibition can be viewed during

the centre's current opening hours be-tween 10am and 4pm on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Mrs Barrett, who was Walsall's first tram conductress during the war

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The Walsall and District division of British Red Cross Society, assembled on The Bridge, during the First World War

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Put your knowledge to the text..

Nature

Which sea creature has three hearts?

2 Flowers

What is the national flower of Wales?

3 Dancing

What was the name of Fred Astaire's famous red-haired dancing partner?

4 History

What name was given to the soldiers who protected Roman emperors?

5 Shapes

How many sides, in total, would three triangles and three rectangles have?

6 Oceans

Which ocean surrounds the Maldives?

7 Food and Drink

Which summer dessert is traditionally eaten during Wimbledon's tennis

matches?

Literature

In J.M. Barrie's novel, where did the Lost Boys live?

Philosophy

Name the Chinese writer, born in 551 BC, known for preaching high moral standards.

10 Geography

Which English national park is associated with poets and an illustrator of small animals?

Inventions

What did A.E. Frick invent in 1887, which are now worn by thousands of people?

12 Phobias

What is an irrational fear of trees called?

13 Poetry

Who wrote the poem Paradise Lost?

14 Sport

Which country does the sport of pelota come from?

15 Games

How many differently coloured sets of residential properties are there in a game of Monopoly?

16 Currency

What is the national currency of China?

17 Music

"Put on your red shoes and dance the blues." These are lyrics taken from which 1995 song?

18 Solar System

How many moons does the planet Venus have?

19 Capital cities

What is the capital of Vietnam?

20 Politics

In which year did Theresa May become Prime Minister?

District 11. Contact Lenses 12. Dendrophobia 13. John Milton 14. Spain 15. 8 16. Renminbi 17. Let's Dance – David Bowie 18. None 19. Hanoi 20. 2016 Answers 1. An Octopus 2. Daffodil 3. Ginger Rogers 4. Praetorian Guard 5. 21 6. Indian Ocean 7. Strawbernes and cream 8. Never Never Land 9. Confucius 10. Lake

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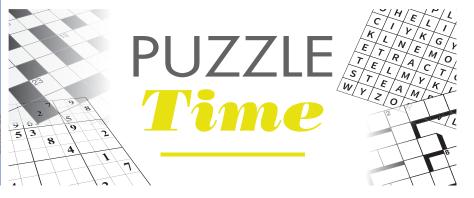
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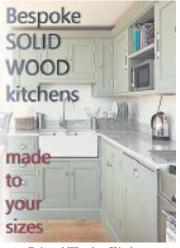
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WHO... wrote the words of the Ode to Joy, the anthem of united Europe? WHAT... type of creature is an onager?

WHERE... is Inswich the administrative centre?

WHEN... was the Freemasons' first Grand Lodge formed in London? Answers: Friedrich von Schiller, A wild ass; Suffolk; 1717.

WHO... is the aristocrat known for his numerous 'wifelets'? WHAT... was the world's first steam-powered passenger railway? WHERE... is Mount Ossa the highest peak on that island? WHEN... did the tanker the Exxon Valdez run aground in Alaska's Prince William Sound?

HORNER WARDER OF BAUT, SUCKION AND DAININGTON HAIMARY, TASTIBATE, MAICH 1999.

WHO... wrote The Stars and Stripes Forever in 1897?

WHAT... sort of creature is a frogmouth?

WHERE... in Asia is the country governed by the State Great Assembly

WHEN... is the Jewish festival which commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem?

. 4 игметя: лопп Рпинр Боиза; A виа; молдона; напиккал.

4 WHO... was US president when Cyrus Vance resigned as secretary of state? WHAT... was the name of Nelson's flagship at Trafalgar? WHERE... is Mount Parnassus, on the southern slopes of which Delphi

is situated? WHEN... was summer time introduced in the UK?

Алгингіз Літту Салег, Victory; Greece; 1916.

WHO... wrote but didn't complete a History of the World while in the Tower of London?

WHAT... did bricklayer Joseph Aspdin create and patent in 1824? WHERE... is the Salton Sea, a brine lake created accidentally during irrigation works?

WHEN... did Transiordan become known as Jordan?

Answers: Sir Walter Raleigh; Portland cement; California; 1949.

WHO... in the literary world had the middle name Marlais? WHAT... is the more common name for the Mexican salamander? WHERE... would you find a bird known as a screamer? WHEN... did the Great Fire of London occur?

nswers: Dylan Thomas; Axolotl; S. America; September, 1666.

REMEMBER WHEN The following events all occurred in a year in living memory. Can you guess the year?

1. Llovd George died

2. Labour's Clement Attlee became the new Prime Minister 3. Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard starred in Brief Encounter

4. E. B. White's Stuart Little was published. 2461 :19W2NA

1. The Olympics were held in Berlin

2. Salvador Dali nearly suffocated while giving a lecture in a diving suit

3. Edward VIII chose abdication over the woman he loved 4. Super liner the Queen Mary made her maiden voyage

1. The Beatles had the top five places in the Billboard Hot 100 2. Harpo Marx died

3. Sean Connery and Honor Blackman starred in Goldfinger

4. The Sun newspaper was published for the first time as a broadsheet

1. Frankie Goes To Hollywood were at No.1 in the U.K. for nine weeks with Two Tribes

2. The famine in Ethiopia reached a horrifying scale

3. Eric Morecambe died

4. Britain had a major industrial dispute when miners went on strike Answer: 1984

1. Shirley Bassey had a U.K. No.1 hit single with As I Love You

2. The Conservatives won the General Election for the third time running 3. Rock Hudson and Doris Day starred in the film Pillow Talk

4. Liberace won £8000 from the Daily Mirror for suggesting he was gay

1. Britain shivered in temperatures as low as -21 degrees centigrade.

2. A young Natalie Wood starred in the film Miracle On 34th Street

3. David Bowie was born

4. Al Capone died

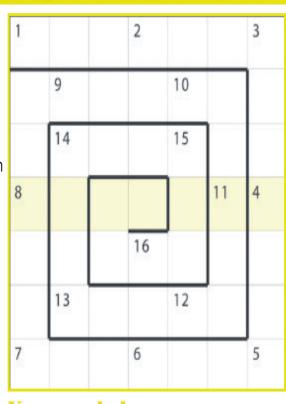




PUZZLE Tomes WORDSPIRAL 1

CLUES

- Talon
- Compass point
- Skinny
- 4. Naked figure
- 5. Give or send forth
- 6. Strong taste
- 7. Medal, slang
- 8. Acquire
- 9. No votes
- 10. House type
- 11. Lazy
- 12. Therefore
- 13. Line in darts
- 14. Epochs
- 15. Snow runners
- 16. Prophet



Key word clue:

Something pickled

SOLUTIONS 1. Claw 2. West 3. Thin 4. Nude 5. Emit 6. Tang 7. Gong 8. Gain 9. Nays 10. Semi 11. Idle 12. Ergo 13. Oche 14. Eras 15. Skis 16. Seer Key word solution: GHERKIN



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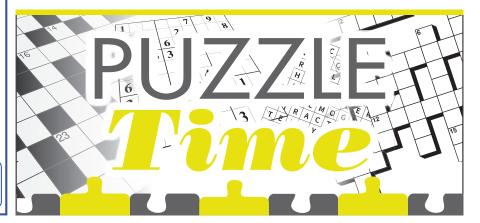
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Best seller brought to life at Rep

Alice Sebold's global best seller, The Lovely Bones, is being brought to life on stage for the first time at Birmingham Rep this month.

Adapted by award-winning writer Bryony Lavery and directed by Melly Still, The Lovely Bones opens on Tuesday and runs until Saturday, November 10. Sebold's tale captured hearts after it

Sebold's tale captured hearts after it was published in 2002. An unforgettable examination of life after loss, it's main protagonist Susie Salmon is a murdered teenager, who watches over her family and friends as they try to put their lives back together. She also watches her killer.

American writer Sebold will be visiting Birmingham for a special 'In Conversation' at The Rep on Thursday, November 1.

Playwright Lavery said: "I've found that the huge story is very, very happy to change its medium and reveal its treasures on The Rep's main stage. I am a most fortunate playwright."

In the 10-strong cast, Susie will be played by Charlotte Beaumont, who played Chloe Latimer in TV series Broadchurch.

Writer Lavery's previous work includes the Tony Award-nominated Frozen, which premiered at The Rep in 1998 and was revived in the West End this year. Director Still's credits include the acclaimed Olivier and Tony Award-nominated production of Coram Boy (National Theatre and Broadway).

Broadway).
For tickets see birmingham-rep.co.uk or call 0121 236 4455



Panto fans have a ball

The Mary Stevens Hospice Pantomime Company will be putting on a fundraising performance of Cinderella at Stourbridge Town Hall with guest star Donchez Dacres.

Following the success of their three-show sell-out debut production of The Wizard of Oz at Brierley Hill Civic Hall back in January, the company are bringing all the magic of the classic fairy tale to the stage across five performances between November 28 and 30, with some performances already sold out.

After the widely-acclaimed performance of the X-Factor's Wagner as The Wizard in the previous production, the hospice committed to including a celebrity special guest in the cast once again, this time in the form of Donchez. Fresh from finishing third on Britain's Got Talent this year with his catchy Wiggle and Wine song, Wolverhampton-based Donchez has agreed to support the Stourbridge hospice by performing in all five shows, although details of his role are being kept as a surprise.

The 61-year-old AA man captured the hearts of the nation with his song, which prompted

David Walliams to hit the iconic golden buzzer to send him straight through to the semi-final of the nationwide talent competition.

Tickets for the show can be booked online at: www.seaty.co.uk/cinderella and for group, school or company bookings call (01384) 377 778 to speak to the Hospice fundraising team. Or to find out more about the work of the Mary Stevens Hospice, visit www. marystevenshospice.co.uk website. All money raised through the show will be donated directly towards families relying on the care of the Mary Stevens Hospice.

Little Mix gig tickets go on sale

Pop superstars Little Mix have announced The LM5 Tour, a massive UK arena tour for 2019 and will be coming to the Genting Arena (soon to be Resorts World Arena) at Birmingham's NEC in just over a year's time.

The shows on Friday and Saturday, November 8 and 9, 2019, will see Little Mix perform songs from their new album LM5, alongside their greatest hits including Touch, Shout Out to My Ex, Black Magic and Wings. Little Mix have firmly established their reputation as one of the most phenomenal live acts around. This summer they toured the LIK with the Summer His Tour.

the UK with the Summer Hits Tour.

Little Mix recently announced that their fifth album, LM5, will be released on November 16. The band have spent the year writing and recording the album with an A-List cast including Ed Sheeran, Jess Glynne, Camille Purcell, MNEK, and Timberland. The girls themselves have described it as 'the album we always wanted to make'. The album's first single Woman Like Me, featuring Nicki Minaj, was released last week. The harmony-led, urban, reggae pop smash immediately hit the top spot on iTunes around the world. Since 2011, Little Mix – Perrie Edwards, Jesy Nelson, Leigh-Anne Pinnock and Jade Thirlwall – have sold more than 45 million records worldwide.

Tickets are on general sale from 9am tomorrow (Friday) via www.theticketfactory.com or by calling 0844 33 88 222



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Brothers still Proclaiming, 31 emerged 31 years ago with their debut album This Is The Story and film Sunshine on Leith. The musical is The Proclaimers are set to fill rumoured to be heading to London's Symphony Hall, Birmingham, West End next year. The new album includes Streets Of

top three single Letter from America. But the duo from Auchtermuchty are on Monday as part of an extensive UK tour. The singing Scottish siblings released their 11th studio album in the summer, which was followed by

homeland.
Twins Craig and Charlie Reid

The Proclaimers

best known for I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles), which after reaching number 11 in the UK chart in 1988 (number 1 in Australia and New Zealand), was re-recorded with Peter Kay to top the

They inspired musical, play and

chart for Comic Belief in 2007

Birmingham comes from Irish singer-songwriter Jack Lukeman.

and Looted.

She's as polished and classy as it gets.

a series of sold out shows in their

Following five star reviews and sold out shows, the gorgeous and stylish Caro Emerald is back with a brand new live UK tour for 2018, which includes a concert at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Tuesday. Since the release of her 2010

multi-platinum debut album Deleted Scenes From The Cutting Room Floor, the Dutch singer and her producers Grandmono have fashioned their own niche, blending retro jazz with sampling and modern pop, starring Caro's smooth vocals. The result is a unique signature sound to go with a glamorous look that suggests a Hollywood icon of

Miss Emerald entered the Official UK Album Chart at No 1 in May 2013, remaining in the chart for an entire

"This tour is the best thing ever," she says. "I'm thrilled to be coming back to Birmingham's Symphony Hall. I've been there lots of times so I know the surroundings and the neighbourhood.

Places like the Symphony Hall and the Royal Albert Hall, which I'm playing for the third time, are out of the ordinary. They are very special.

"The Symphony Hall is a fantastic venue with so much atmosphere and when you play you can feel how special it is. Being there helps to lift my performance.



Edinburgh, a tribute to the city of their birth, You Make Me Happy plus the

Support for The Proclaimers gig in

political and socially aware Classy

Caro Emerald - unique

It's been a loff but now Black Eyed Peas to I'm off, says Doreen

COMEDY queen of the Black Country Doreen Tipton has said that her latest live tour will be her last and she is

promising 'to go out with a bang'.

The feckless, deadpan character, played by actress Gill Jordan, will bid farewell after her Doreen's Big Top tour which calls at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre next Friday, November 2.

The self-professed 'lazy cow', created by Gill and writer David Tristram, has hinted at a mysterious new venture, so

maybe we haven't seen the last of her.
"This will be our sixth live show, and we've had a wonderful time doing them," says Gill "But planning for the live tours starts virtually a year before with the writing process, preparing videos, theming, booking venues, marketing, rehearsing and so on. By the time you finally complete the tour itself you then have to start planning the following year's tour almost immediately. This leaves no time for exploring other projects, new avenues, as you get trapped in a cycle of writing, planning, rehearsing, touring, then writing again. We think the time is right to break the mould and try something different.'

celebrate anniversary

The Black Eyed Peas are back - will.i.am, apl.de.ap and Taboo will line up at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Monday as part of their first headline tour in eight years.

The Black Eyed Peas formed in 1992 in Los Angeles though their roots go back to 1988, when eighth-graders William Adams (will.i.am) and Allan Pineda (apl.de.ap) began rapping and performing together around LA. Later they were joined by Jaime Luis Gomez (Taboo) and singer Fergie, who left the Peas for a solo career.

They enjoyed hits with Where Is The Love?, Shut Up, Don't Phunk with My Heart, Don't Lie, My Humps, and Pump It, among others. The hip hop/pop group have released seven chart-topping studio albums. Meanwhile, will.i.am has won a whole new group of fans as the most enigmatic and humorous of the judges and mentors on TV talent show The Voice.

Fans can look forward to a greatest hits selection. The group has also premiered an explosive new single and video entitled Get It which looks at social issues such as police brutality and immigration.



Thursday, October

Chronicle



Claudia Winkleman

Strictly Come Dancing -Halloween Special (BBC1, 6.50pm)

For Movie Week, the unsung heroes of Strictly's hair, makeup and wardrobe departments managed to transform Stacev Dooley and Kevin Clifton into a pair of jiving, bright ye**ll**ow minions and got Graeme Swann to do the Charleston dressed as Spider-Man. So just imagine what they are planning for this year's Halloween special... As ever, Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman will be introducing the couples, while Shirley Ballas, Darcey Bussell, Craig Revel Horwood and Bruno Tonioli will be deciding which dances were a treat, and who should have added a few more tricks to their repertoire.

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Classic Mary Berry. (R) 12.00 Football Focus. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Invictus Games 2018. 2.00 Live International Rugby League. England v New Zealand (Kick-off 2.30 pm). 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News. 5.20 Regional Programme. 5.30 Invictus Games 2018.

Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a sci-fl edition of the general knowledge quiz. The teams playing for charity are classic Doctor Who stars Peter Davison and Katy Manning, Blake's 7's Paul Darrow and Michael Keating, Red Dwart's Hattle Hayridge and Harry Potter's Hattle Hayridge and Harry Potter's Lessie Cave, and Star Wars actors Kiran Shah and Jimmy Vee. Strictly Come Dancing — Halloween Special. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host a spooky episode of the dance contest, with the remaining 11 pairs competing to impress judges Shirley Ballas, Dame Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli and Graig Revel Howood and the viewers with their Italents. Casualty, Base works, for Ross in 6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander

Casualty. Base works for Ross in his meth lab to pay off his debts. He collects 16-year-old Harry to work with them, and watches on as Ross physically asserts his authority over the teenager. Duffy wakes up in a hotel room having slept with Bill. Full of guilt, she

slept with Bill. Full of guilt, she sends him away and gets ready to leave, On her way out, she hears a call for help and reluctantly treats. Naima, who was found passed out in the hotel swimming pool.

9.25 Killing Eve. Carolyn brings unwelcome news and a change of priorities, but Eve is closer than she has ever been to Villanelle, and is finally going to meet Anna.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Cary Lineker

10.10 BBC News: Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier Lague matches, including twe pool v Cardiff Gity at Afriel Leicester City v West Ham United at the King Power Statum.

11.50 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to present highlights of Houston Texans v Miami Dolphins.
12.20 Film: The Borderlands. (2013) 1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead.

BBC2

6.45 Top Class, (R) 7.15 All Over the Place: Europe, 7.45 Widd & Weird, 8.00 Aboute Genius with Dick & Dom, (R) 8.30 Got What It Takes? 9.00 Elephant Diaries, (R) 9.30 Elephant Diaries, (R) 9.30 Elephant Diaries, (R) 1.00 Natural World. Saving Luna. (R) 1.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 12.00 Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. (R) 1.00 Wanted Down (R) 2.00 Escape to the Country, (R) 3.00 Britain's Ultimate Pilots: Inside the RAF. (R) 2.00 Letterbox, 5.30 A House Through Time. 6.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring finds a

6.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring finds a
 German pilot trapped on top of the
 town clock by his parachute, so
 the platoon attempts a rescue
 mission. (R)

 7.00 Mediterranean with Simon
 Peaus Simon travelet through

Mediterranean with Simon Reeve. Simon travels through Libya, visiting areas of the county devastated by recent fighting as well as one of the world's best preserved ancient Roman cities. He moves on to Tunisia, where he discovers a mountain fortress and meets a man keeping ancient Berber traditions alive, including making olive oil with the help of carnels. Finally, he crosses the sea to Sicily, and discovers how the Mafia are attempting take advantage of declining population numbers. (R)

8.00 Elizabeth I's Secret Agents. The

population numbers. (R)

8.00 Elizabeth I's Secret Agents. The
Earl of Essex tries to take over
Robert Cecil's spy network to gain
control over the ageing Elizabeth I
and hold the power to choose the
next King of England. (R)

9.00 Black Hollywood: "They've Gotta
Have Us". A look at the future
facing black film-makers, examining
the impact of high-profile
successes such as Black Panther
and the Oscar-winning Moonlight
and Get Out. Last in the series.

10.00 IXI. Sandi Toksvig and Alan
Davies are joined in this extended
edition by Jimmy Carr, Syles
Brandreth and Sally Phillips,
who answer questions on the
subject of piecerneal.

10.45 Snowfall. Franklin realies
it's time to step his whole
operation up a gear.

11.30 Later Weekend with Jools
Holland. The pianist welcomes
artists including New York rockers
Interpol. Bugzy Malone.
Rag'n Bone Man, Fantastic Negrito
and Another Sky.

12.35 Film: Cosmopolis. (2012) 1.15
(GMT) Trust. (R) 2.05 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dana. 6.10 Super 4. (R) 6.25 Super 4. (R) 6.35 Make It Pop. (R) 6.55 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.05 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.15 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled! The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: ToonMarty. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: ToonMarty. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: ToonMarty. (R) 8.30 Scrambled!: Mighty Magiswords! (R) 9.25 ITV News, 9.30 Jannes Martin's Saturday Morning. 11. 40 Countrywise. (R) 12.05 ITV News; Weather. 12.15 Midsomer Murders. (R) 2.10 The X Factor. (R) 3.15 Catchphrase. (R) 4.00 Tilpping Point. 5.00 The Chase. (R) 5.5 ITV News; Weather.

6.10 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.10 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.20 Film: Harry Potter and the
Deathly Hallows: Part 2. (2011)
The teenage wizard continues his
search for the artefacts containing
fragments of the dark lord
Voldemort's soul. Time is running
out, as the evil sorcerer is aware of
Harry's mission, and marshals his
forces for a final, devastating
attack on Harry and his friends at
Hogwarts school. Conclusion of
the fantaxy saga, with Daniel
Raddliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Rupert
Grint. Emma Watson and Alan

8.35 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary hosts the second week of live shows, with the remaining acts performing to impress judges Simon Cowell, Louis Tomlinson, Robbie Williams and Avda RODDIE WIIIIAMS AND AYMA WIIIIAMS — as well as the viewing public at home. This year, Simon will be coaching the Girls, Louis has the Boys, Robbie will take on the Groups and Ayda has the Overs.

10.35 The Jonathan Ross Show. The one Jonathan Hoss Snow. In host is joined on the sofa by guests Brendan O'Carroll, the man behind Mrs Brown, Emma Willis and Chabuddy G, while Boyzone perform live and discuss their farewell tour.

11.40 ITV News; Weather. 11.4011 News, weatner.
12.00 Play to the Whistle. With Jonathan Ross, Chris Kamara and Jack P. Shepherd. (R) 12.45 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulettewheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00** (GMT) Long Lost Family. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.15 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
8.05 Frasier. (R) 9.30 The Big Bang Theory.
(R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
10.30 Footnin a Bed. (R)
2.00 Four in
6.30 Channel 4 News.

6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Film: Transformers: Dark of the Moon. (2011) The heroic autobots discover that a spaceship from their own planet crashed into the moon decades ago, carrying their former leader and an incredibly powerful device. They must fight to defend the human race as their enemies the decepticons plot to use this machine to rebuild their own world and destroy the Earth, Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Shia LaBeouf, Josh Duhamel and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. Edited for language and violence.

10.00 Formula 1 Mexican Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.

Qualifying Highlights.
Steve Jones presents action
from the battle for pole position at
the 19th round of the season,
which took place at Autodromo
Hermanos Rodriguez in
Mexico City.

Mexico City.

11.35 Film: The Mortal Instruments:
City of Bones. (2013) A teenager
discovers she is part of a race of
magical beings tasked with
defending the world from demons.
Fantasy adventure, with Lily
Collins and Jamie Campbell
Bower

Bower.

1.45 Experimental. Tim builds a vacuum-powered climbing kit. Last in the series. (R) 1.40 (GMT) Hollyoaks. Omnibus. The day of Ste and Harry's wedding arrives, and Lily enlists Prince and Zack to help with the decorations. Meanwhile, James uses Romeo to help him expose his affair. (R) 3.45 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Kirstie Allsoopinis a Women's Institut groun (R). distribution of the distri pursues their dream of living mortgage-free. Last in the series. (R) **5.50** The King of Queens. Doug worries he might be losing touch with Carrie. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel 9.50 Rise of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.25 The Secret Life of Puppies: Terrible Twos (R) 11.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.2.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 2.00 Film: Free Willy. (1993) Family drama, starring Jason James Richter 3.00 Access. 3.05 Film: Free Willy. (1993) Concluded. 4.20 Rich House, Poor House. (R) 5.20 Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) 6.15 Can'l Pazy Well' Il Ake Il Away!

6.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!
Two enforcement agents make a shocking discovery in a child's bedroom during an eviction, and a debtor gets physical when he is visited over wages owed to a freelancer. (R)

7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! High Court enforcement officers Paul, Steve and Ben make a shocking discovery when they break into a home while serving an eviction notice on a single mother and her two children. (R)

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! High Court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve and Ben Paul Bollill and Steve and Bell Pinner face their biggest eviction yet, as they take on squatters in a large London office block. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 Fury vs Pulev: Live Boxing.
Hughis Fury v Kubrat Pulev.
Coverage of the heavyweight bout,
which takes place at Arena Armeec
in Sofia, Bulgaria, Britain's Fury—
the cousin of former world
heavyweight champion Tyson—
lost his only world title contest in
September last year to then-WBO
champion Joseph Parker, but
bounced back from that loss in
May, defeating Sam Sexton to win
the British title. Home fighter Pulev
also has one loss on his record, a also has one loss on his record, a knockout defeat to Wladimir Klitschko in 2014, but is undefeated in five contests since then

in the contests since then,
in the contests since then,
finally snaps and uses her psychic
powers to avenge herself on the
bullies who tormented her. Horror
remake, starring Chloe Grace
Moretz and Julianne Moore.

11.30 Access. Showbiz news. 11.30 Access. Snowbiz news.
11.35 Film: Carrie. (2013) Concluded.
12.25 Film: Silent Hill: Revelation.
(2012) 1.00 (GMT) SuperCasino. 3.10
GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) 4.00 Now
That's Funny! (R) 4.45 Wildlife SOS. (R)
5.10 House Doctor. (R) 5.35 House
Busters. (R)

BBC Four
7, 00 Natural World Special: My Life as a
Turkey 8,00 Life Story 9,00 54 Hours:
The Gladbeck Hostage Crisis 10,30 There
She Goes 11,00 Top of the Pops: 1986
12,00 Britain's Most Dangerous Songs:
Listen to the Banned 1,00 Neil Sedaka:
King of Song 1,00 (GMT) Knights of
Classic Drama at the BBC 2,00 Natural
World Special: My Life as a Turkey

ITV2

12.05 You've Been Framed! Gold 12.35
Film: Step Up 3 (2010) 1.40 FYI Daily
1.45 Film: Step Up 3 (2010) 2.50 Film:
Beethoven (1992) 4.35 Film: Casper
(1995) 6.40 Film: The Lord of the Rings:
The Return of the King (2003) 10.35
Celebrity Juice: Halloween Special 11.20
Family Guy 12.45 American Dad! 1.40
Don't Hate the Playaz 1.45 (GMT)
Release the Hounds 2.35 Totally Bonkers
Guinness World Records 3.00
Teleshopping 4.55 ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3

17V3
12.50 Film: Agatha Christie's Sparkling
Cyanide (2003) 2.50 Agatha Christie's
Poirot 5.00 Lewis 7.00 Midsomer
Murders 9.00 Endeavour 11.00 Inspecto
Morse 1.25 A Touch of Frost 2.10 (GMT)
ITVS Mightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

ITV4

11.20 The Big Fish Off 12.25 The Motorbike Show 1.30 ITV Racing Live from Chetlenham. 4.20 World Cup Fixal F

1.00 Film: Father of the Bride (1991) 1. UU Film: Father of the Bride (1991) 3.05 The Great British Bake Off 4.25 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 4.35 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Fast & Furious 6 (2013) 11.35 Gogglebox 1.40 Celebs Go Dating 1.45 (GMT) Celebs Go Dating 2.35 Celebs Go Dating

Sandwell College

Film4
11.00 Dragonball Evolution (2009) 12.50
Dr Dolittle (1998) 2.20 Flash Gordon
(1980) 4.30 Bohemian Rhapsody
Interview Special 4.40 Cheaper By the
Dozen (2003) 6.35 The Second Best
Exotic Marigold Hotel (2015) 9.00
World War Z (2013) 11.15 The Other
Side of the Door (2016) 1.10 Inferno
(1980) 2.40 (GMT) Close



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Steve Pemberton Inside No 9 Live (BBC2, 10pm)

Over the years this series has given us some of the most chilling, clever and downright bizarre half-hour stories any fan of spooky tales could wish for. And now Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith have penned Dead Line, a live show which, if we're lucky, will prove as captivating as that other live Hallowe'en classic, Ghostwatch from 1992. It centres on Arthur Flitwick (Pemberton) who finds an old mobile phone in his local graveyard. It seems like a good idea to try and contact the owner, but as the spookiest time of the year draws near, Arthur is soon immersed in a nightmare of his own making. Apparently no good deed can go unpunished. in this world or the next.

BBC₁

6.00 (GMT) Breakfast. 8.40 Match of the Day. (R) 10.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 11.00 Regional Programme. 11.30 Sunday Morning Live. 12.30 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.00 Points of View. 2.15 Songs of Praise. 2.50 Film: Oz the Great and Powerful. (2013) Fantasy adventure, starring James Franco. 4.55 Scared Shrekless. (R) 5.15 BBC News. 5.35 Regional Programme. 5.45 Countryfile Ramble for BBC Children in Need. Children in Need.

SUNDAY'S TV OCTOBER 28

7.00 Doctor Who. The Doctor brings her friends back home to 21st-century Sheffield, only to discover there is something strange going on involving all the city's spiders. Chris Noth guest stars.

7.50 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal the results of the Halloween special, as two more couples compete in a dance-off. Featuring a special musical performance by Rita Ora.

8.30 Still Open All Hours. Granville invests in a glant balloon for advertising purposes, and has to come up with the best sales pitch he can muster to persuade his customers to buy tins of smoked

9 00 The Little Drummer Girl New series. Spy drama set in the 1970s, following the aftermath of a bombing in East Germany. An Israeli intelligence operative investigates, and discovers a connection to a series of connection to a series of assassination attempts against prominent Jewish figures around the world. In London, a struggling actress accepts the offer of a holiday in Greece, leading her to a whithwind romance that draws her into the agent's operation.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. A review of the day's Premier League action, featuring Burnley V Chelsea at Turf Moor, Crystal Palace v Arsenal at Selhurst Park and Manchester United v Everton at Old Trafford.

United v Everton at Old Trafford.

1.30 The Women's Football Show.
Highlights of the weekend's
games in the Super League, and a
look at the biggest issues in the
women's game.

12.05 The Apprentice. (R) 1.05 The Apprentice: You're Fired. (R) 1.35 Weather. 1.40 BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 (GMT) Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) 7.20 Carol Klein's Plant Odysseys. (R) 7.50 The Instant Gardener. (R) 8.35 Countryllie. (R) 9.30 The Beechgrove Gardener. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure. (R) 12.30 Sweets Made Simple. (R) 1.10 NFL Live. Jacksonville Jaguars v Philadelphia Eagles (Kick-off 1.30pm). 5.00 Hog It! (R) 5.30 Letterbox. 6.00 Britain's Classroom Heroes 2018.

6.00 Britain's Classroom Heroes 2018 Britain's Classroom Heroes 2018.
Anita Rani and Sean Fletcher host the annual Pearson Teaching Awards celebrating outstanding Awards celebrating outstanding a spotlight on the work they do every day to make a difference to children's lives. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the awards, with the introduction of a new category or School of the Year. With celebrity guests on hand to present the accolades, and an exclusive performance from the cast of the popular West End shout Jamie, this promises to be a special evening of celebration.

Nature's Wildest Weapons:

7.00 Nature's Wildest Weapons Horns, Tusks and Antiers: Natural World. Professor Doug Emlen examines how animals use their bodies as weapons, from elephants to rhinoceros beetles. (R)

elephants to rhinocero's beetles. (R)

8.00 Mediterranean with Simon
Reeve. The final leg of the journey
takes in Morrocco, where Simon
visits a land border between Africa
and the European Union, before
moving on to Spain and Corsica.
Last in the series.

9.00 Last Chance Lawyer New York
City. Howard takes on a major
murder trial, and tries to prove the
defendant's claim that he was
protecting a woman who was
being stalked by the man
he killed. Last in the series.

he killed. Last in the series.

10.00 Inside No 9 Live. A special live episode for Halloween, in which a man finds a mobile phone in a graveyard and tries to return it to its owner, only to be drawn into a nightmare of his own making.

10.30 The Mash Report. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R)

11.00 Film: The Ring. (2002) Horror remake, with Naomi Watts. 12.45 Sign Zone: Question Time. 1.45 Holby City. (R) 2.45 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 (GMT) CITV- (GMT) Dino Dana.
6.10 Super 4. (R) 6.25 Super 4. (R) 6.35 Make It Pop. (R) 6.35 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.08 Fobozuna. (R) 7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! Roll Scrambled! Roll Scrambled! R) 8.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 8.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 8.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! R) 8.30 Scrambled! R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Love Your Garden. (R) 10.25 Emmerdale 1918. (R) 10.55 Martin Lewis: 10 Things Your Kids Need to Know. (R) 11.55 The Big Audition. (R) 12.50 ITV News. 1.00 The X-Factor. (R) 3.00 Back to Mine. 3.30 Tenable. (R) 4.30 The Chase. (R) 5.30 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.30 TV News; Weather.
6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.
7.00 The Chase Celebrity Special.
Bradley Walsh presents as celebrity contestants Dani Harmer, Eddie Hall. Chemmy Alcott and Alex Horne pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught. being caught.

8.00 The X Factor. Talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary, in which solo singers and groups compete to win a recording contract.

9.00 Butterfly. Vicky forges Stephen's signature to obtain consent for Maxine's treatment, but he has already reported her to the police and she is arrested on her return me. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather 10.20 Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine. First

10.20 Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine . First in a two-part documentary in which chef Gordon Ramsay investigates the cocaine trade, seeing how the drug is made and witnessing the arrest of couriers on their way to a deal. (R)

11.20 Gordon, Gino and Fred: Road Trip . The trio tour Gordon Ramsay's birthplace of Scotland, searching for ingredients for grand feast, while also finding time to take part in the Highland Games. (R)

12. 15 Strangers. (R) 1.05 Jackpot247.
3.00 Motorsport UK. (R) 3.50 ITV
Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 (GMT) The King of Queens. (R)
6.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.36 Frasier. (R) 8.00 Frasier. (R) 8.30
Frasier. (R) 8.55 Jamie Cooks Italy. (R)
9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The
Simpsons. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R)
1.30 Film: Tooth Fairy. (2010) Family
comedy. starring Dwayne Johnson. 3.35
The Great Britisch Bake Off. (R) 4.55
Film: The Aristocats. (1970) Animated
Disney adventure, with the voice of Eva
Gabor.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Phil Spencer's Stately Homes.
Phil sinvited by Lord David
Cholmondeley to visit Houghton
Hall in Norfolk, built for Britain's
first prime minister Robert
Walpole, and attempts to discover
how much it cost. He also
discovers the story of a
disreputable member of the
Walpole family who sold the art
collection and even the front steps
of the house to pay his gambling
debts. (R)
8.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy

debts. (R)

8.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy
West and Prunella Scales explore
the waterways of North-West
England, from the suburbs of
Manchester, through Britain's first
purpose-built canal, to the port at
Ellesmere. They discover how
canals played a vital role in
transforming Britain during the
Industrial Revolution, and have
subsequently become a central
point of Manchester's gay
community. ommunity.

community.

9.00 Film: Deepwater Horizon. (2016)
Premiere. An oil rig in the Gulf of
Mexico is beset by technical
difficulties – but executives from
the company behind the project
ignore the warning signs and demand work proceeds as normal despite warnings from key engineers on site. The situation rapidly gets out of control, leading to the worst environmental disaster in US history. Drama, starring Mark Wahlberg.

11.00 Formula 1 Mexican Grand Prix

11.00 Formula 1 Mexican Grand Prix Highlights. Steve Jones presents action from the 19th round of the season, which took place at Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City.

1.15 Film: Little Men. (2016) 2.45 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Silice. (R)

3.40 Building the Dream. (R) 4.35 French Collection. (R) 5.25 Buy It Now. (R) 5.50 Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 (GMT) Milkshakel: (GMT) Peppa Pig. 6.05 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.10 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.10 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.10 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.15 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.15 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.15 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.15 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.16 Peppa Pig. (R) 6.20 Perpa Pig. (R) 7.50 Peppa Pig. (R) 8.00 Pen All Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 8.15 Pew Patrol. (R) 8.30 Nella the Princess Knight. 8.50 Shimmer and Shine. (R) 9.00 Pirata & Capitano. (R) 9.15 Noddy. Toyland Detective. (R) 9.35 Floogals. (R) 8.15 Pew Patrol. (R) 8.30 Nella the Princess Knight. 8.50 Shimmer and Shine. (R) 9.00 Pirata & Capitano. (R) 9.15 Noddy. Pirata & Capitano. (R) 9.15 Noddy. Pirata & Capitano. (R) 9.15 Pirata Shine. (R) 9.00 Pirata & Capitano. (R) 9.16 Pirata Shine. (R) 9.10 Pirata & Capitano. (R) 10.35 Finends. (R) 12.45 Piratas. (R) 11.40 Piratas. (R) 12.10 Piratas. (R) 12.35 Piratas. (R) 3.05 Piratas. (R) 3.35 Piratas. (R) 3.05 Piratas. (R) 13.35 Piratas. (R) 13.55 Piratas.

Concluded.

6.10 The Lion Cub from Harrods.
Documentary telling the story of
two Australian furniture salesmen
who bought a lion cub from
Harrods in 1969 and raised it
themselves. (R)

7.00 Inside Harrods: The World's Most insude Harrods: The World's Mos Famous Department Store. Documentary going behind the famous gold-and-green facade of the retailer, to explore the store's million square feet of shopping space, as well as the secrets of its success.

success.

8.00 Ice Road Truckers. Art Burke hits a melting ice crossing and a load that is right at the weight limit. Steph Custance finds out whether she will be joining the Polar team.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Hitler's Holocaust Railways with Chris Tarrant. Chris Tarrant explores the use of trains in transporting millions of prisoners to ghettos and death camps during the Holocaust. Featuring contributions from survivors.

10.30 Big Brother.

12.00 When Kids Kill: Beaten for Being Different. The heartbreaking story of a young couple who were attacked for how they looked. (R) 12.45 Helicopter they looked. (H) 12-49 Helicopter Pursuits: Caught on Camera. A compilation of police helicopter chases. (R) 1.10 SuperCasino. 3.10 Film: What I Did for Love. (2006) 4.40 Access. 4.45 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R) 5.35 House Busters. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 (GMT) Locomotion: Dan Snow's
History of Railways 8.00 The Ghan:
Australia's Greatest Train Journey 11.00 I
Was a Yazidi Slave 12.00 Art of France
1.00 Timeshift: The Golden Age of Coach
Travel 2.00 Timeshift: The Modern Age of
The Coach 3.00 The Culture Show: Lego
— The Building Blocks of Architecture
3.30 Close
ITV2

ITV2

12.30 Celebrity Catchphrase 1.35 You've Been Framed! Gold 2.35 Film: Babe: Pig in the City (1999) 3.35 FVI Daily 3.40 FIlm: Babe: Pig in the City (1998) 4.25 The Smurfs: The Legend of Smurfy Hollow 4.55 Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) 6.00 FVI Daily 6.05 Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) 6.00 FVI Daily 6.05 Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) 7.50 FVI Daily 7.55 Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) 10.00 Family Guy 11.30 American Dail 12.25 The Cleveland Show 1.20 The Weekender: Boat Party 2.20 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen Nightscreen

ITV3

11.15 Bertie and Elizabeth 1.20 Agatha Christie's Poirot 3.20 Film: Columbo: The Most Dangerous Match (1973) 5.00 Foyle's War 9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot 11.25 Film: Chocolat (2000) 1.40 Paul O Grady's Animal Orphans 2.35 Murder, She Wrote 3.30 Road to Avonlea 5.10 Judge Judy 5.35 ITV3 Nightscreen

1704
11.20 Pawn Stars 12.45 Darts: European Championship Live. Coverage of day four of the event from Dottmund, Germany.
5.00 Pawn Stars 5.55 Made in Britain 7.00 Darts: European Championship Live. The semi-linals and final on day four of the event from Dortmund, Germany.
11.00 Film: Saw (2004) 12.00 FYI Daily 12.05 Film: Saw (2004) 1.05 The Avengers 2.15 Pawn Stars 2.40 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping

12.35 Happy Together 1.05 New Girl 1.35 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 Film: Crocodile Dundee (1986) 9.00 Celebs Dating 10.00 Club Rep Wars 11.05 TP Big Bang Theory 12.05 First Dates 1.1 Celebs Go Dating 2.15 Club Rep Wars 3.05 Rude Tube 3.30 Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 (GMT) Carry On Regardless (1961) 12.50 Starman (1984) 3.05
Titanic (1997) 6.55 The Princess Bride (1987) 9.00 Kingsman: The Secret Service (2015) 11.40 The Taking of Deborah Logan (2014) 1.30 The Piper (2015) 3.45 Close





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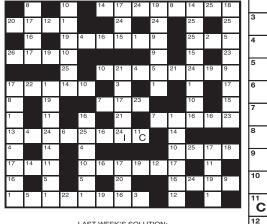


BRAIN GYM

No.503

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

 $| \mathbf{W} | \mathbf{V} | \mathbf{C} | \mathbf{F} | \mathbf{T} | \mathbf{M} | \mathbf{A} | \mathbf{B} | \mathbf{E} | \mathbf{R} | \mathbf{G} | \mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{X}$

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. One abandoned by players on opponent's ground (8)
- 5. Copied some
- cheap editions (4) 9. Store between 180 and 270
- degrees (4) 10. Conscientious objections (8)
- 11. This Jack has three crosses to bear (5)
- 12. Hide in N. Africa (7)
- 13. Show off? (2.11) 18. He sees to a minor
- charge (8) 19. Sweet and sour (4)
- 20. Ends an interim arrangement (7)
- 21. Present part of 10 Down (5)
- 22. A vessel we turn and turn about (4)

Down

- 2. A new notion for the Merchant of Venice (7)
- 3. Drawing line (3-4) 4. Taking in, being
- obliging (13) 6. It has a large bill in
- place perhaps (7) 7. Arrange to order (7) 8. Business may be
- started with it (6) 13. Garment shortened - after dark
- that is (7) 14. It was plain to early American settlers (7)
- 15. Tree used in sacred fires (3,3)
- 16. Not many can provide a word of opposite meaning (7)
- 17. It's funny, there's nothing in the

Quick Clues:

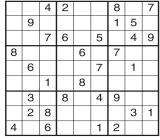
Across

- 1. Assessment (8)
- 5. Fish-pond (4)
- **9.** Replete (4) 10. Reasoning (8)
- **11**. Railing (5)
- 12. Finger protector (7)
- 13. Somersaulting (4,4,5)
- 18. Pastoral (8)
- 19. Apiece (4)
- 20. Opening (7)
- 21. Scatter (5) 22. Band (4)
- 23. Candidate (8)

- 2. Trip (7)
- 3. Maltreated (3-4)
- 4. Reverse fortunes (4,3,6)
- 6. Quake (7)
- 7. Testimony (7)
- 8. Stubborn (6)
- 13. Trial (7) 14. Sale (7)
- 15. Decree (6)
- 16 Voter (7)
- 17. Reading desk (7)

Sudoku

T YOUR LEISUR



Fill in the grid above so that every column. every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9



Your Chronicle

Just Go!

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC – Across: 1 Air-hostess; 7 Owing; 8 Aligned; 10 Enshroud; 11 Stet; 13 Shriek; 15 Gnomon; 17 Dock; 18 Mail-boat; 21 Saviour; 25 Set-to; 23 Grass widow. Down: 1 Aries; 2 Regarded; 3 Opaque; 4 Twin; 5 Sanctum; 6 Sobersides; 9 Detonation; 12 Analysed; 14 Recover; 16 Marrow; 19 On tow; 20 Bows. QUICK – Across: 1 Pleasantty; 7 Blush; 8 Nonplus; 10 Reserved; 11 Mete; 13 Verbal; 15 Surest; 17 Arch; 18 Preserve; 21 Erudite; 22 Infer; 29 Pestilence. Down: 1 Pours; 2 Ethereal; 3 Sinner, 4 None; 5 Relieve; 6 Abbreviate; 9 Sweetheart; 12 Question; 14 Recluse; 16 Ordeal; 19 Rifle; 20 List. LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:

Quiz

- Which cartoonist and illustrator created the schoolgirls of St. Trinian's?
- Which king's eldest son was the Black Prince?
- What is the capital of the Lorraine region? Of which bird is the tragopan a type?
- Which band's drummer did Baywatch star Pamela Anderson marry and divorce?
- What, in economics, may be fixed or 6. circulating?

I

- On the southern flank of which mountain is
- Which boxer underwent surgery to remove a blood clot after his fight with Nigel Benn?
- Of what are bort, balas and carbonado
- 10. Where did Billy Butlin open his first camp?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Echo; 2 Iceland; 3 Spanish dance;

4 Parish; 5 Oscar Wilde; 6 Philo Remington;

7 Lioness; 8 Lake Michigan; 9 Story of Esther;

10 Travis

Niner: ROYALTIES

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7988 7612 34519

gives a Scottish inventor, gives a second Scottish inventor, gives a French-Polish scientist.

Star Reader Ca



DURHAM

Christmas Market & Beamish

Departing Saturday 1 Dec

The beautiful city of Durham, with its winding cobbled streets and cathedral, is the perfect setting for a festive Christmas Market. The market offers a wonderful seasonal atmosphere and the opportunity to start your Christmas shopping, with a wide range of

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Walsall, Cannock & Wolverhampton
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Visits to Beamish & Durham Christmas Market

2 Days by Coach now £119

ANDRÉ RIEU

at the Echo Arena, Liverpool

Departing Friday 14 Dec

Violin master André Rieu has announced a new UK 2018 tour including a date at the Echo Arena in Liverpool! See the 'King of Waltz' perform with his 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra where he will play songs from his repertoire alongside Christmas carols.

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Walsall & Wolverhampton
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel with breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to André Rieu concert at the Echo Arena, Liverpool
- ✓ En-route visit to Manchester Christmas Market Ticket upgrades available



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- ✓ Entertainment some nights
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For more information

Single supplement £12.50

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Individuallydesigned home with large garden

A wonderful individually-styled home that has been much loved by the current owners, Royden, 282 Lichfield Road, Willenhall, has been their family home since it was built in 1952!

Set back off the road with a large driveway to the front and a large garden to the rear, it is now for sale through Skitts estate agents at £350,000.

With three bedrooms, a lounge/dining room, kitchen and a wet room, it is double glazed throughout.

Also with a large lawned area to the front, gates to the side providing access to the rear garden and parking for a vehicle.

In more detail a composite entrance door leads into the entrance hall.

The lounge/dining rom has a feature fire surround and an electric fire, a double glazed bay window to the front, and two opaque double glazed windows to the side. There is an archway to the dining area with French doors giving access to the rear garden.

The kitchen has an inset stainless steel sink, decorative work surfaces and a range of matching fitted wall and base units. There is space for a cooker, a fridge freezer and a tumble dryer, plus space and plumbing for a washing machine. Add to this an opaque double glazed window to the front, vinyleffect flooring and a uPVC door accessing the rear garden.

Bedroom one has a double glazed window to the front. Bedroom two has fitted wardrobes and a double glazed window to rear. Bedroom three has a double glazed window to the rear.

The wet room has an electric shower, a pedestal wash hand basin and a low flush WC, tiled walls and an opaque double glazed window to the rear.

The rear garden has a large lawned area, and a range of mature shrubs and trees. There are double gates providing access to front, and there is space for a vehicle.

WILLENHALL £350,000



KEY FEATURES

Detached bungalow
Beautiful large rear garden
Built in 1952
Large driveway
3 bedrooms







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The Chronicle

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FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

GUIDE PRICE £65,000



LOT 2

- - - EPC rating C (74) GUIDE PRICE £60,000

WS12 4JP LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION Ground floor flat Two bedrooms Electric heating Fully double glazed Off road parking house In need of refurbishment Located in popular position Gas central heating ◆ Located in popular ◆ Gas central heating ◆ EPC rating D (58)

LOT 3 CHADSMOOR, CA WS11 6DP

- GUIDE PRICE £110,000+

LOT 4

- In popular residential area
- ◆ Requiring some modernisation ◆ EPC rating E (52)

118 MOSS ROAD, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 6DP FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION 117 MOSS ROAD, DSMOOR, CANNOCK. WS11 6DP FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION Attractive three bedroomed detached house Located in popular residential an Requiring some modernisation Benefiting from gas fired central heating Attractive double fronted 4 bedroom detached house

GUIDE PRICE £150,000+

Stunning and historic four-bed home ideal for family

Being truly stunning and historic this four-bedroomed detached house for sale in Main Street, Stonnall, is ideal for a family.

Having been much improved by the current owner, it is for sale through Edwards Moore now at £685 000

With gas central heating and double glazing, it has a stunning WALSALL £685.000

reception hall, a delightful downstairs WC, a most impressive through-lounge, lovely sitting room with an inglenook fireplace, a dining room and a superb living kitchen.

It also has a utility, four double

en-suite to the third bedroom, a large family bathroom, a study, a garage, an impressive private rear garden with large patio area, and a wide frontage having plenty of parking and lawns.

For further information or to book that all important viewing, contact the selling agents Edwards Moore on 01922 745105

Site, Rear of 117-118 Moss

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Road, Cannock

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12 CENTRAL AVENUE, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5JW

- FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT Three bedroom semi detached
- Standing on larger corner plot
- Gas central heating Producing £6,760 P.A FPC rating the
- C rating tbc
 GUIDE PRICE £70,000+

163 - 165 HIGH STREET, CHASETOWN, BURNTWOOD, WS7 3XL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT



- und and first floor e rooms could ncorporated into



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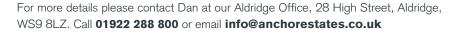












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- Four bedrooms
 South facing garden
 Master with en suite
- Master with en suite
 Large lounge
 Separate dining room
 Kitchen with utility room

Holden Crescent, Walsall,

No upward chain Rental yield in excess of 7.8% Quiet location Ground floor

Communal rear garder One bedroom



- lawbush Road, Walsall



- Gomer Street, Willenhall,

- Lengthy lease No upward chain
- A must see





- No upward chain
 Immaculately kept
 Popular residential area
 Perfect family home



- Birchfields, Willenhall,

 Three bedrooms

 Large garden

 Garage

 In need of some modernis

 No upward chain

 A must see for any family





Aster Way, Walsall

- Spacious living space Ideal family home
- Popular residential location



- Unique opportunity
- 10 studio apartments, 2 one bedroom





- An ideal investment
- Three bedrooms

 Popular location

 In need of modernisation

 Close to local amenities
- A must see



Modern detached

- Large conservatory Three good sized bedrooms
- Corner plot Well presented throughout
- A must see



- Two bedrooms
- No upward chain Modern apartment block

Master with en suite







- Valleyside, Pelsall, Detached home

- Huge kitchen
 Ample living space
 Off road parking



- Modern semi-detached home

- Modern semi-detache
 Re-styled kitchen
 Re-styled bathroom
 Two reception rooms
 Cul de sac
 Enclosed rear garden

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- Local amenities close by
 Ready to move



- Modern block



- Ready to move into now! Fitted kitchen
- · Fitted bathroom
- Low running costs DHSS considered



Blakenall Lane, Walsall

- Rear garden Fitted kitchen and bathr
- Large living area DHSS accepted

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- Two good sized bedrooms
- Guarantors may be required · Fitted kitchen and bathroo



- · Two double bedrooms

Old Park Road, Wednesbury, Available now! Available flow!
 Ample off road parking
 Short term let only
 Large rear garden
 Fitted kitchen





- Spacious lounge Fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
 Off road parking
- Rear garden



- Fitted kitchen
- Two reception rooms
- Downstairs fitted bathroom Upstairs fitted bathroom
- · Close to local amenities



- Lounge
 Fitted Kitchen
 Bathroom witl
 EPC 62

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- Stafford Street, Willenhall

- Fitted kitchen



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- tached
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- Double Glazing
 Through Lounge
- · Family Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
 Off Road Parking
- Garage
 Sorry No Pets or Smokers







H

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Double Glazing Communal Hallway with Lift
- Electric Central Heating
 Lounge/Kitchen
- Broadway, Walsall • EPC- 88
- Family BathroomNO DHSS Accepted



- Semi-detached house
- Two bedroom
 Located in a cul-de-sac
 Gas central heating
- Driveway and single garage
 Fitted Kitchen













- Lounge
 Fitted Kitchen Bathroom
 Two Allocated Off Road Parking
- Windrush close, Pelsall
 - Sorry No DHSS
 Double Glazing
 Gas Central Heating
 EPC 77





Close, Walsall

- Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment

- No Bedroom First Floor Apply
 Double Glazing
 Gas Central Heating
 Secure Communal Entrance,
 Family Bathroom
- En-suite
 Fitted Kitchen
 Lounge
 Allocated Parking.
 Sorry No DHSS



- Off Road Parking
 Rating-68



Ground Floor Maisonette Entrance





- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- cul-de-sac Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Through Lounge Kitchen







High Street, Bloxwich

- Studio Apartment
 Electric heating
 Lounge/Bedroom
 DHSS Accepted
- No Pets or Smoking
 EPC TBA







Basalt Close, Walsall



NEW BUILD



Call 01922 711444 for your Free Valuation

Economic new petrol engine in XC40

By Ian Donaldson

How times change, Just a few months ago olvo reckoned most buyers of its smallest SUV would want a diesel doing the work. They don't think so any more.

Which makes the introduction of a smaller petrol engine option into the handsome – and European Car of the Year winning – XC40 about as timely as could be.

This new 1.5 litre three-cylinder engine is expected to take a fifth of all XC40 sales, helping push the range's combined diesel offerings into a minority 40 per cent of sales. And to think that not so very long ago (mere

months, actually) everyone wanted a diesel in their SUV because of the likely economy at

Changed

Then the world changed and now we're supposed to hate diesels enough to want to ban them from city centres and think 'unclean, unclean' when one passes us on the motorway

Well, there's good news on the economy front if you take the petrol route - the lively little T3 unit now on offer manages up to 45.6mpg in the official test and showed 47.0mpg in the real world on a mixed set of streaming roads for its road test debut.

That encouraging economy (backed up by 144g/km tailpipe emissions) is made to shine brighter still by a starting price of £27,350 for a Momentum trim level XC40, making it the least expensive way into the model range.

Paying less for your Volvo than many makes with less fancied badges charge for their



The boot is decently proportioned

rivals doesn't mean you face a life of slow lane misery without any of the goodies that help pass away the miles.

That little engine is near silent most of the

time, only raising its voice to a distant and typically endearing three-pot thrum when asked to give its all. Stirred along by a sweet six-speed manual gearbox (an auto is coming) it provides enough performance to pass muster as the family carry all, with a 124mph top speed and 9.4 seconds to 62mph.

Riding on 18ins alloy wheels the XC40 made a fine job of levelling out some typically unkempt British minor roads and – wipers on fast as the heaven's opened – skimmed safely along the motorway.

That tempting price brings a Momentum grade car - and many won't want an upgrade after scanning a standard equipment list that includes satellite navigation, climate control, 18ins alloy wheels, cruise control, rear parking sensors and safety systems that parcel in fully automatic emergency braking.



Riding on 18ins alloy wheels the XC40 made a fine job of levelling out some typically unkempt British minor roads

Still fancy a bit more? Then you can move up through R-Design (sporty looks) to Inscription (luxury emphasis) and add Pro versions of each with bigger wheels, heated seats and more.

Diesels (bool) start at £28 750 for a D3 Momentum and XC40 prices top out for the moment with the £37,050 T5 Inscription Pro with all-wheel drive and automatic transmission

The XC40's nicely restrained looks on the

outside are different enough to distinguish this Swede (even if now Chinese-owned and built in Belgium) from a clutch of its mainly German rivals which, you may think, are starting to look like peas from the same pod.

The same individual approach carries on inside, where Volvo is almost proudest of the practicality built in to every nook and cranny. Moving the big bass speakers from front doors to dashboard frees enough room for a laptop, tablet and water bottle. How very sensible and

so Swedish. It has also built in enough room for a couple of six-footers to sit comfortably behind a pair of similarly-sized mates in the

The decently proportioned boot continues the cleverness with a parcel shelf that stores beneath the floor.

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Models shown: Picanto 'X-line S' 1.25 83bhp 5-speed manual at £14.470 including optional chargeable Clear White paint at £250, Stonic '4' 1.0 T-GDi 118bhp 6-speed manual ISG at £20,200 including premium Blaze Red with Black roof paint and Niro '4' 1.6 GDi 1.56 kWh lithium-ion 139bhp 6-speed auto DCT 18" alloys at £28,285 including optional Premium White Pearl paint at £565, Picanto GT-Line S 1.0 T-GDi 99bhp 5-speed manual MY19 at £15,235 including premium chargeable Chilli Red paint at £515. Specification varies across the range and is subject to change without notice. "£2,000 (inc. VAT) scrappage saving analysis to private customers excluding Personal Contract Hire when registering a Picarto Science and Survey a

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The effect of the Order will be to close the slip roads leading to and from the M6 at Junction 9.

The work will be carried out overnight between 22:00 hours and 05:00 hours and is expected to start on Monday 19 November 2018 and continue for three nights. The Order will come into force on 12 November 2018.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority, ambulance or traffic officer purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or for winter maintenance purposes will be exempt from the closures

Diversion routes via alternative junctions of the M6 will be signed. For further information please contact Gavin Nellist on 0300 470 3261

Karen Eustace, an officer in Highways England Company Limited. Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A Company registered in England and Wales.

Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed **Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management** Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications car be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/ planning. Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall. gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Deadline for comments on or before: 08/11/18

APP NO: 18/1253 BY: Mr Jeremy Williams FOR: DEMOLITION AND REBUILDING OF A GARDEN BOUNDARY WALL AT: ROWLANDS PHARMACY, 10, BIRMINGHAM ROAD, WALSALL, WS1 2NA

APP NO: 18/1101 BY: Allan Walters FOR: TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION INFILE CORNER OF REAR SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION AND INSTALL ROOF LANTERN, AT: 44 . CHURCH ROAD, PELSALL, WS3 4QW

APP NO: 18/1343 BY: Mr Kumar FOR: VARIATION OF CONDITION 10 OF PLANNING APPLICATION 13/0746/FL TO ALTER THE PLANS LIST TO REPOSITION THE BIN STORE, AT: LAND AT 232 LICHFIELD ROAD, WILLENHALL

Personals

Personal

Angels

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

Halwan Ahmed Ameen has applied to Walsall Council for a Premises Licence at International Supermarket 111 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1SZ to enable the Sale of Alcohol off the premises between 0800 and 2300 hours Monday to Sundays. The full application can be inspected by appointment phone 01922 653050 or email licensing@walsall.gov.uk

Any representation must be made in writing or email as above before the 17th of November 2018 to: Licensing Unit. Walsall Council. Civic Centre Darwall Street Walsall WS1 1TP

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application under the Licensing Act 2003. A person guilty of such an offence is liable on summary conviction to an unlimited fine

NAZIR BEGUM (Deceased)

NACIH BEGUM (Deceased) Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 58 Florence Street Walsall West Midlands WS1 2LG, who died on 171/22017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undestigned soliciots on or before 281/22018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interest of which they have had notice. ENOCH EVANS LLP 6-9 Harherton Road Wasall

West Midlands WS1 1XS

ALAN CECIL PRATT

ALAN CECIL PHATI
(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 7 St. Thomas Close Wlastal Wsy 98 St., who died not 1008/2018, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 28/12/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having repard only in claims and inflerests of which they have had notice. to claims and interests of which they h CO-OP LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED



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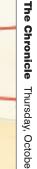
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Is this the best way to hold the racket?

Joseph tries out the different shots



Think I'm getting the hang of this



Chris Dawson passes on a few tips to Joseph Masi

Having a ball by hitting the wall

IT'S been described as the world's healthiest SPORTING FEATURE sport. But while there are more squash courts in England than any other country - 8,500 in fact the amount of people playing the game is falling.

But thousands of players recently picked up their rackets to celebrate World Squash Day.

And Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club is doing everything it can to encourage people to take up the sport.

The club runs with the slogan 'Get healthy, play sport and make friends'. And coach Chris Dawson, who gave me my first squash lesson, believes the game is perfect for anyone looking to improve their health and fitness.

"The aim for us is to get more people to give squash a game to get the state of the s

"The aim for us is to get more people to give squash a go – because we're confident once they do, they will take to it straight away;" he said.

away," he said.
"It's a great game for fitness and I'd encourage anyone of an age to get involved because there are so many different sides to the game.

Different

"There are a few simple rules. But there are so many different

"There are a few simple fules. But there are a few shots you can play.

"You can play with power and hit the ball hard and fast. But it's very easy to slow that down. Everyone can find their niche. It's all about controlling the ball, concentrating all the time and

being one step ahead.

"It's like a game of chess, everyone has a weakness – it's about

finding that."
With more than 1,000 members, Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club has a variety of ways people can get into the sport. Courts can be hired between friends, one-on-one lessons are available and there are also leagues for people looking for a

competitive edge.

But it is the club's 'mixer' sessions that are ideal for newcomers, with players able to go up against different people while learning new skills.

"The great thing here is that there is always somebody who wants a game," Dawson continued. "We have over 1,000 members and there is something for everybody.

"You can book a court, have individual lessons and there are

of an book a court, nave individual ressons and there are also internal leagues.

"Our mixer sessions are also popular and take place on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and everybody is welcome. We normally have a group of around eight people turn up so we open four

or five courts.
"You then play against each other but, often it won't just be

By Joseph Masi

"The aim for us is to get more people to give squash a go - because we're confident once they do, they will take to it straight away,'

a game. One of the coaches will set a certain routine to help you a game. One of the coaches will set a certain routine to help you improve your game. In a game, all you think about is winning the rally. But if you're given a routine, you are trying to do something with the ball and it quickly helps you to improve."

While some people may find it daunting to walk into a squash club, Dawson – who recently moved down from Lancashire – says everyone is made to feel welcome in Wolverhampton.

"I have only been here about a month but everyone has been very friendly and very welcoming," he continued.

Slower

"And here you can go at your own pace and make the game your own. The first step is to come down and try it and you can pick it up at any age.

"There are people here in their 80s playing squash. There is also

racket ball, which is slower and has a bigger ball which bounces more and gives you more time.

"The important thing to remember is the game is all about

movement. If your movement is right, if you can pick up just a few small things, the game isn't as tough as you think.

"It's all about making it efficient for yourself."

As well as encouraging older people to take up the sport, Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club also wants to see more youngsters playing the game.

The ably ways eaching sessions for youngstors accord between

youngsters playing the game.

The club runs coaching sessions for youngsters aged between five and 17. And Dawson is eager to get more through the door.

"As far as juniors go, on the tennis side – we've got quite a few, but on the squash side we're trying to build it up," he added. "We haven't got that many at the moment but we're hoping to change

To book call (01902) 755265 or email club@wltsc.com

Baggies Bomber now on board with BCB

'BAGGIES Bomber' Tommy Langford has joined the Black Country Box ing stable. The former British middleweight champion has signed a management contract with BCB Promotions and will work alongside trainer Tom Chaney.

Tom Chaney.

Langford will step up to super middleweight as he plots a course back to boxing's big time in 2019. BCB's Errol Johnson said: "I'm delighted to bring Tommy to BCB. He had two absolute wars with Jason Welborn this year and showed, especially in that second fight, real heart and courage.

"I'l was a pleasure to deal with on both cogssions and now he is stepning."

"He was a pleasure to deal with on both occasions and now he is stepping up in weight, we believe he can be a real force in the super middleweight division."

division."
"I am happy to be signing with BCB and for Errol to be working alongside
Tom Chaney to plot my course back to the top," said Langford.
"I know I can perform at championship level at super middleweight and
I'm looking forward to the journey ahead."

Women can get taste of American football

WOMEN are being urged to try their hand at American football with a series of taster sessions. Five-time British champions the Birmingham Lions are inviting females aged 17 or over to try out gridiron during at a rookie camp on the next two Saturdays, October 27 and November 3, at Avery

Fields, on Sandon Road, from 9am-noon. Created in 2014, the Lions were the first British women's club side to take on a European club abroad when they played French side Les Spar-kles. They travelled to Finland in 2017 to take on national champions Hel-

Ries. Iney travelled to Fulnand in 2017 to take on national champions relisinki Wolverines and in April 2018, they won the inaugural Diamond Bowl, Europe's first ever women's international tournament.

Club captain Jo Kilby said: "American Football is an incredibly empowering sport for women. Previous experience doesn't matter; in fact, many of our rookies last year had never played a contact sport in their lives."

For more about the team and rookie camps, see facebook.com/BhamLionsWM), Twitter (@BhamLionsWomen) and Instagram (@bhamlionswm)

Gavin steps up title fight preparations

FRANKIE Gavin has stepped up preparation ahead of his European welterweight title clash with champion Kerman Lejerraga, travelling by boat to Bilbao for a pre-fight press conference.

Despite travelling the world as an amateur, a 'bad flight' led to a fear of planes for the 33 year-old, and he will again travel to the Basque country by boat during fight week.

"Everyone knows I don't like flying," said Gavin. "I had a bad flight and now I choose not to fly. I caught a train to Plymouth and jumped on the ferry to Santander then got picked up and brought to Bilbao."

Gavin is wary of his opponent's power. The Revolver', a Bilbao native, is unbeaten in 26 professional fights with 21 KOs to his name. "Kerman is a hard hitter," he added. "He's a tough lad and I know I'm up against it a bit. The atmosphere is intimidating but I'm prepared for that."

For tickets, at £50, visit https://www.fgringsidegym.co.uk/#compliswgd71

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Darlo out of Vase at the first hurdle

Darlaston Tn (1874) 0 AFC Solihull 2
TWO-TIME former winners Darlaston
Town bowed out of the Birmingham
County FA Vase at the first hurdle, losing 2-0 to Midland League AFC Solihull.
Manager Andy Parkes opted to give
squad players some game time and also
tried different tactical options. Sam
Causton was suspended, while Corey
Mason was handed his full debut.
In glorious sunshine and on a pear per-

In glorious sunshine and on a near per-fect playing surface Darlaston had the better of possession but were generally out of sorts and despite 17 attempts on goal, none really forced visiting keeper Mark Fitzsimmons into a save of note.

With only their second attempt at goal and against the run of play the visitors opened the scoring in the 43rd minute. Jon Hamer played in Joel Hughes be-hind Darlaston's back line, and he beat Liam Whittaker with ease to give the vis itors a 1-0 lead.

itors a 1-0 lead.

A blistering half-time team talk didn't produce the desired improvement or increased urgency. Darlaston remained on top and had the majority of possession but AFC Solihull easily contained and

repelled any goal threat.

The introduction of Andy Matthews in the 66th minute gave the visitors real pace up front, causing Darlaston's de-fence big problems. The home side still dominated pos-

session but lacked width, ideas and a cutting edge even after the introduction of top scorer Leon Taylor and Daniel Bolzon from the bench.

AFC put the game beyond doubt in the 74th minute, livewire Hamer capitalised on a mistake wide on Darlaston's left to run behind the home side's defence, his well weighted cross found the onrushing Elliott Price who gave Whittaker no chance from 15 yards.

Darlaston return to league action on Saturday when they travel to Long Lane, Essington to take on Wyrley, ko 3pm.

Jack's the lad with a four-goal salvo

A STUNNING first-half display from Jack Arnold fired FC Darlaston into the second round of the Birmingham FA Vase.

Hot-shot Arnold had the tie won by the break after netting four times in the opening 45 minutes away to AFC

Somers.

He opened the scoring on four minutes

home from 15 yards. And when he drove home from 15 yards. And it was 2-0 five minutes later when Ar-nold picked himself up after being fouled and netted with a free-kick.

The striker was celebrating his hat-

trick on 34 minutes after intercepting a back pass, rounding keeper Martin Hill and slotting home from close range.
Arnold was then upended in the pen-

alty area and calmly netted the resulting spot-kick.

Dan Sheldon claimed a consolation

goal for the hosts from the penalty spot late on.

Pressure builds as Walsall in drop zone



Simon Weaver tries to break through the defence

PRESSURE is building on Walsall and the management after a fourth league defeat of the season dropped them into the relegation zone.

It was a defeat that should have really been avoided as the hosts were guilty of squandering several try scoring opportunities.

The visitors had the ideal start as centre Andy Bushell went over. But fly half Will Hennessey outpaced the defence for a try converted by Roger Weston who then added a penalty. Bushell, how-

ever, broke through again for another score. Tom Wayne scored the visitors' third try just before half-time, with Lee Westwood converting.

Captain Weston got Walsall back in the game converting his own try, then adding the extras to Dave Merlin's touchdown.

Walsall failed to convert their chances and

with seven minutes left, Mike Foulds secured a touchdown which Westwood converted to move Spartans up to third. On Saturday, Walsall travel

Convincing win for Pics over battlers

Rushall Olympic 4 St Ives Town 1
TWO goals in each half saw Rushall
Olympic sweep to a convincing victory
over a battling St Ives to make it backto-back home victories.
It took a while for the game to spring

into life but two goals in the space of three minutes, shortly before half-time turned the game in the hosts' favour.

Three minutes before the break Joe Hull headed home Tyler Lyttle's corner and then a well worked corner saw Ben Lund glance home a header.

Lund glance home a header.

The hosts began the second half well on top and straight from the kick-off they could have gone further in front but another excellent cross from Lyttle just evaded the outstretched boot of Richard Brodie and Ashley Sammons curled his shot inches over the bar.

shot inches over the bar.

Another sweeping move involving AJ
Adelekan and Edwin Ahenkorah ended
with Kevin Monteiro heading wide and
visiting goalkeeper Sam Wilson pulled
off a fine save to keep out a close-range
header from Lund. Lyttle set up another
opportunity when he picked out Monteiro who found Lund but the striker
curled his shot wide.

The Discount there we when Sam

The Pics went three up when Sam Whittall sidefooted home from close range and ten minutes from time substitute Justin Richards, scored his first goal for the club, when he converted a penalty. Substitute George Bailey slotted home a consolation for the visitors from an

summed up the Saddlers' performance as Walsall were given a wake-up call by Luton Town.

Saddlers were comprehensively beat-en at Kenilworth Road on Saturday. And Leahy admitted that, not only did his side not do the basics right, they did not match the Hatters for effort either.

While the team's success so far this season has While the team's success so far this season has been built on effort and organisation, Leahy described the performance as "flat", revealing the players were even off the pace in the warm-up. Before kick-off, this looked to be an intriguing clash. Luton's home record and Walsall's away record were identical.

Both teams remained unbeaten having won four and drawn two of their six matches. The

four and drawn two of their six matches. The Hatters had also scored in every game on their own turf, while Dean Keates' side had found the back of the net in every game on the road.

Bundled

But from the first whistle, Luton dominated, always seeming to have a man spare and moving the ball around beautifully.

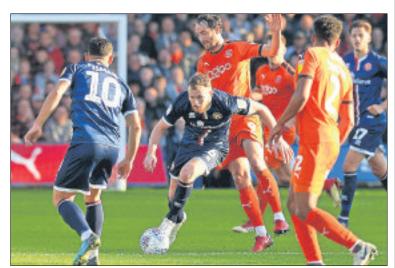
They deservedly took the lead in the 19th min-

the when Glen Rea bundled in from close range from what had been their fourth corner.

But the scoreline didn't match their dominance. With Luton eager to play through the middle, Walsall also failed to exploit the flanks.

Neither Leahy or Nicky Devlin were able to get forward and both Josh Ginnelly and Zeli Ismail had off days on the wings. Despite their dominance, Luton only went in

Despite their dominance, Luton only went in at the break a goal ahead. But they grabbed a second in the 55th minute when the excellent Jorge Grant curled in a free-kick from 20 yards. Walsall will face 1987 winners Coventry City in the first round of the FA Cup following Mon-day's draw. The tie will be played on the week-end on November of 10-11.



Saddlers striker Andy Cook feels the pain of defeat

Martin kept promise to join Saddlers

for Walsall despite interest from some of League One's biggest clubs – after making a promise

Saddlers last week as a player-coach in a move Keates hailed as a massive coup for the club.

Martin, released by Norwich at the end of August, recently

But he struck up a close friend-ship with Keates during their time together at Peterborough.

And despite clubs making a move to lure him elsewhere, he walsall would be the only club he signed for in League One. "I don't think I would have got him if we weren't friends,"

possibility of a move to a Cham-pionship club. But he is a man of his word and he said if he didn't

nis word and ne said if ne didn't end up in the Championship, he would sign for us."

Martin sat in the stands as Walsall lost 2-0 to Luton on Saturday. But Keates said it wouldn't be long until he is featuring in the matchday squad.

Ball's aiming to be in seventh heaven

DANNY Ball hopes to be in seventh heaven as he steps into the ring at Wal-

sall Town Hall this weekend.

It will be the 22-year-old's seventh outing since turning professional last summer. The former white collar star takes on evergreen Kevin McCaulsy on Saturday on BCB Promotions' Hallow-een show called 'Things That Go Bump in the Night.'

in the Night.' Also on the bill are English bantam-weight champion Kyle Williams, Cen-tral Area heavyweight champion Kash Ali, Tividale's Ryan 'Stewart' Davies, Burntwood's Troi Coleman and Ball's gymmate Connor Lee Jones.

The Chronicle, a Midland News *** Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford Thursday, October 25, 2018 SUPPORT RECYCLING The recycled content

NEW boy Russell Martin signed spent time on trial with Albion. Keates admitted. "There was a

to manager Dean Keates.

The 32-year-old joined the



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beds and homewares.

CLEARANCE EVENT

Exciting new developments, plus significant investment and restructuring mean that Cousins Furniture need to clear millions of pounds worth of stock from their warehouses and showrooms with immediate effect.

For 3 Days, this Friday, Saturday & Sunday

COUSINS have been closed all week, because staff have been working around the clock handling vast quantities of incoming stock from their suppliers & warehouses, including the leading brands.

Consignments will continue to arrive daily and all price tickets have been reduced to a fraction of the normal price for this Massive Clearance Event.

FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITIES

After a long hot Summer and a year of Brexit uncertainty, it's been well documented that High Street sales are suffering.

As a result, many of Cousins' suppliers, including the leading brands, are simply overstocked.

This has allowed Cousins to bulk purchase enormous volumes of stock and negotiate fantastic short-term discounts from many of their suppliers. They're now able to offer the buying public a phenomenal opportunity to purchase quality furniture at unbelievable discounted prices.

Coupled with the unknown impact of the impending Brexit deal or no deal and whether this will lead to unprecedented price increases on the High Street, there's never been a better time to buy.

These tremendous deals apply to both stock and special orders.

FANTASTIC STOCK DEALS

Furthermore, as a member of the prestigious "Associated Independent Stores" Buying Group, Cousins have used their combined purchasing power to obtain some fantastic stock deals on accessories, homewares and carpets.

LEADING BRANDS

In store, Cousins are continuing to enhance the overall customer experience with the introduction of new Brand Galleries, including market leading upholstery manufacturers Collins and Hayes.

"Our customers are investing in both quality and brand assurance. People are becoming more adventurous in the styles that they're purchasing" said John Shotton, Managing Director.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

With this in mind, Cousins will be introducing many new Collections for 2019, including an on-trend Urban Living department plus a comprehensive Ergo Comfort Gallery.

Based on public demand, they've worked closely with some innovative designers to develop ranges of furniture that will offer unprecedented comfort and support, including adjustable lumbar-supports and headrests, plus the use of pressure relieving memory foam.

Urban Living has evolved from today's Instagram driven society, with the need

to make a bold interior statement using designer styling, pops of colour plus that cutting-edge accessory.

Whether it's Scandi chic, mid-century modernity or retro deep-buttoning Cousins will have it.

CONTINUED SUCCESS & EXPANSION

Cousins are also further extending their unique "Bespoke Upholstery" departments, which enable consumers to solve any seating dilemma they may have.

Whether it's design, dimensions, comfort levels or fabric covering, a customer can design a sofa, chair or corner group to exactly match their needs.

This is a service that isn't generally available on the High Street and certainly meets a significant demand.

WAREHOUSE RESTRUCTURING

Both online and offline, Cousins' will be continuing to improve the shopping experience.

The recent opening of a new fully responsive website, has resulted in a significant uplift in sales, together with increased consumer demand for immediate delivery, meaning that they need much more storage capacity in their warehouses.

So, a comprehensive restructuring programme of both their facilities and systems is about to commence.

STOCK ARRIVING DAILY -EVERYTHING MUST GO

This tremendous pressure for space, with the need to clear stock from suppliers and their warehouses plus the need to create space in-store mean that consignments will continue to arrive daily, and be marked down to prices for immediate Clearance and delivery.

"We need to clear this stock as soon as possible with everything available for immediate delivery. It really is a case of everything must go" said John Shotton.

"We are delighted to offer our customers more choice than ever before.

These are some of the biggest saving

we have ever offered and expect people to take full advantage".

MADE TO ORDER

Cousins have even dramatically reduced all made to order items, so you can choose exactly what size or colours suit your home. Their expert team of sales people will be on hand to ensure you make the right decision at the best price.

"We are expecting this to be our busiest event of the year from the minute the doors open. With many one-off bargains and unrepeatable deals it really will be a case of first come first served" said John Shotton, Managing Director.



DOORS OPEN FRIDAY 10am SHARP!

COUSINS FURNITURE, CARF MULTI £MILLION C

THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY - EVE



Doors open 10am Friday, be early for the best buys, there are many never to be repeated ONE OFF bargains. If you are seriously thinking of buying any item of furniture, carpets, beds or home accessories at the lowest possible prices then you must visit Cousins this Friday, Saturday or Sunday!

THERE WILL ALSO BE BIG DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SPECIAL MADE TO ORDER ITEMS!













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MYERS - KELMSCOTT King size 2 drawer divan	£699 £333
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LEARANCE EVERYTHING MUST GO

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LATINA – WHITE High gloss extending table and 6 chairs	£1499 £648
WILLIS AND GAMBIER Reclaimed timber 3 drawer/1 door sideboard	£899 £365
HALO - ALSTI Oak nest of tables	£379 £144
TUCSON Marble and chrome dining table & 6 chairs	£1999 £772
ALFRANK High gloss with marble 4 door sideboard	£1299 £488

FLOORING:

Kitchenware stock must be cleared!

AXMINSTER Glenavy 100% wool carpet	£79m² £38m²
COLUMBIA TWIST Stain resistant carpet. Good selection of colours	£12m ² £5 .85m ²
RUGS TO CLEAR Assorted designs, sizes and colours	FROM £29
HOMEWARES:	
DENBY - DINNER SETS - WHILE STOCKS LAST! All existing stock must be cleared	SAVE 60%
SCATTER CUSHIONS Assorted designs and colours	FROM £4
JOSEPH JOSEPH	SAVE 35%

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